



PRINCE • WILLIAM • SOUND COMMUNITY • COLLEGE

Institutional Plan Goals

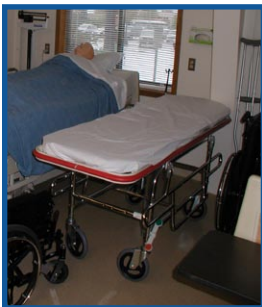
Source: PWSCC 2005-2006 Institutional Plan



1) Increase student recruitment and retention efforts. Develop and implement a comprehensive marketing plan that targets each degree and certificate program.



4) Continue to improve and expand campus facilities.



2) Expand educational opportunities for area residents through creation and/or collaborative delivery of programs that target high demand jobs and partnerships with other educational institutions.



5) Continue to build and sustain technology infrastructure and services to outreach campuses, and rural villages and communities.



3) Continue to enhance the academic experience and quality of services for all students.



6) Continue efforts to maintain a high level of external funding.

"Large Enough to Serve You, Small Enough to Care"



In February 2008 a long-desired new PWSCC Science Classroom was completed in support of general science and nursing courses

4. Campus Academic Plan & Vision

This section looks at facility and site needs from the perspective of academics and programs, based on adopted PWSCC institutional plans and the college's mission presented in Chapter 1. It also integrates feedback from faculty, staff, and students gathered during this planning effort at a series of meetings on September 19, 2008 in Valdez, and through written comments.

PWSCC is an independently accredited Community College and does its own assessments and institutional planning. PWSCC's mission and academic plan guide the college's departmental and academic programs, which in turn must guide master planning, facility design, and resource investments. PWSCC's most recent Institutional Plan provides direction and implementation items summarized in this chapter. Specific goals and needs associated with facilities and/or campus space include:

Facilities

Complete roof, boiler and window upgrades to student residence halls. Also provide refurbishment of student residence halls including but not limited to updating carpet, electrical and plumbing.

Conduct assessment of classroom furniture and acquire desks and furnishings to accommodate larger students. Consider ergonomics when purchasing furniture.

Assess storage and filing needs, and identify viable solutions to address these needs.

Continue to seek additional external funding to support costs of the main campus building extension

Consider a Student Center, Student Recreation area

Instruction Department

Expand and improve distance delivery instruction, including needed equipment, faculty training, expanded offerings, new policies and guidelines for delivery.

Improve departmental communication with outreach campuses.

Develop Alaska Native Cultural Enhancement and Preservation Certificate and Associate Programs (new Title III funded program).

Develop and Implement Plan to deliver selected upper-division Human Services courses in collaboration with other UA extension campuses.

Pursue UA Board of Regents approval to offer a Certificate Program in Family Centered Human Services.

Develop an ITEC degree emphasis in Environmental Technology and explore a Memorandum of Understanding with UA Southeast related to delivery of the Environmental Technology Degree. Maintain the



On campus and distance students need increased specialized support services including academic and career advising, tutoring, mentoring, counseling, and study skills

ITEC program library for student and instructor use.

Fully implement the Associate of Fine Arts Theatre Degree Program

Further develop millwright program into career seeker and HS deliverable models

Develop and implement Outdoor Leadership program (AAS and Certificate)

Special Programs

Market PWSCC training services to regional and statewide businesses.

Explore the delivery of community emergency preparedness training.

Continue to respond to community needs through the Wellness Center.

Continue to develop and offer new programs in Native villages and communities throughout the PWSCC service area. Utilize ABE and Title III funding to support tutors in these communities.

Student Services

Develop specialized support services for both on-campus and distance students, including academic and career advising, tutoring, mentoring, counseling, and developmental and study skills opportunities, and online-resources and other technologies (Title III).

Establish and maintain relationships with outreach community members and tribal agencies to create and/or enhance a support network in each outreach community.

Employ Village Outreach Support Specialists, and collaborate with Village Access Coordinators.

Business and Financial Planning

Develop a model for the necessary upgrade and replacement of technology and facilities.

Outreach Campuses

Copper Basin

Collaborate and investigate opportunities for the delivery of trades courses, utilizing Copper River School District equipment and facilities.

Continue to expand the use of video conferencing to deliver courses in rural Native villages, and work with villages to upgrade technology to support this.

Continue and expand the development of a long-term plan for a permanent facility for the Copper Basin Campus.

Cordova

Respond to expressed local needs, and coordinate to make courses accessible at remote locations for students in the nearby villages. Expand the use of video conferencing to deliver courses to Cordova and in rural Native villages.

Continue efforts to establish a Licensed Practical Nursing Program leading to certification, in collaboration with the local hospital and UAA Nursing program.

Continue to make library and research methods and resources more accessible from rural areas and address the barriers of distance and slow mail delivery.

Pursue collaboration with the Native Village of Eyak to expand offerings related to their culture and heritage.

Support Services

Develop a Curriculum Design and Delivery Studio to create new courses and make existing offerings more relevant and appropriate for distance delivery.

Continue to build a strong technological infrastructure that will support rural student access to courses, computer labs, and video conferencing.

Build partnerships that can support technology infrastructure for PWSCC campuses and their service areas.

Campus Vision

A series of meetings were held at the Prince William Sound Community College Campus in Valdez, Alaska over the course of the day of September 19, 2008, as a

means of gathering initial information for preparation of this PWSCC Campus Master Plan. Written input was also gathered prior to and at the meetings via input forms.

Key issues and the desires of faculty, staff, and students are summarized in the following, focused around immediate and short term campus needs, long term improvements, and aspects of PWSCC that serve as strategic niches and are important to future enrollment and facilities development. Unless otherwise stated, issues noted are specific to the Valdez Campus.

SHORT TERM IMMEDIATE CAMPUS NEEDS

General Building Issues and Needs

- Storage everywhere is limited;
- Everything is just a little too compact—it would be good to have 10%-15% more space. This is partly due to the ubiquitous presence of distance learning equipment. Rooms once sized appropriately for classes are now cramped;
- There is no small staff lounge (break room) for faculty and staff;
- The campus requires ADA upgrades to bathrooms and interior ramps to meet code. Also, improve entries with ADA accessible automated doors;
- Complete the lighting upgrade already started; and
- Address noise between classrooms and the main student commons and study area.

Academic - Specific Space Needs

- It would be beneficial to have an instruction technology workroom to prepare multi-media class materials;
- Access to online research journals on campus is desirable. Also, it would be good to have a quiet place in the Community College for study. The library is five blocks away and its hours are limited.
- The college would benefit from a large flexible space that could be subdivided into smaller classrooms;
- A divider is needed to separate science and nursing labs;
- Many of the desks are not suitable. There was some discussion as to whether tables were a better option;
- In Chitina, the Polycom needs separation from the rest of the room;
- IT is generally very short on space;

- There is little privacy in either the Student Services area or the Business Offices. At a minimum, their computers would benefit from privacy screens; and
- Adult Basic Education has a good program, but also has some special needs. It could use better separation from other uses.

Outdoor Site

- Improve parking lot area, particularly in the back. Poor lighting sometimes makes it scary, and people are often unable to see the deep puddles;
- A covered smoking area outdoors would be beneficial to smokers and non-smokers alike. A dedicated area would move smokers away from the building entrances;
- During winter months, snow storage often blocks direct access from the student housing to the campus; and
- The paint color scheme for the college buildings' exteriors could be more stimulating

Housing

- A fiber-optic connection is needed between the student housing and the main campus building for high speed internet and other communications;
- A covered smoking area outdoors would be beneficial to smokers and non-smokers alike. It would move smokers away from the door.
- A shuttle between housing and the College would be beneficial, even if irregular during the winter months.

Miscellaneous

- Photocopying requirements peak at varying times of the year, and photocopying often cannot be completed at any local shop;
- The Wellness Center needs upgrades. Also, the center would benefit from a separate room that could be used for aerobics and yoga;
- Recycling bins, especially for paper, should be provided;
- It would be good to install some sort of emergency alert system (perhaps a few Alarm Buttons) that would notify security or others in the building of a security situation;
- A new phone system is needed, as the existing phone system is so old it is not possible to obtain spare parts. Additionally, students and faculty must dial long distance to speak with administrators in Anchorage;

- Replacement of outdated furnishings in classrooms, offices and housing; and
- Additional storage for equipment and supplies supporting the outdoor recreation program.

LONG-TERM MAJOR CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS

- More classrooms;
- Start over and build a real college (too many odd spaces from the old school building);
- Library on campus;
- Spaces and windows that capture scenic views outside;
- Major upgrade to heating and lighting (existing systems dated to 1965);
- Improved vehicle fleet;
- IT needs better infrastructure, storage space and well-trained staff;
- Improve and expand PWCC's overall ability to deliver distance education for the area that the college serves;
- More functional room that can seat 50-60 more comfortably for corporate training;
- A comfortable lounge area, something like a cafeteria and an internet café, where students can relax on couches, talk and occasionally be loud. It should include computers to access the internet and check classes online, a kitchenette, sink, refrigerator, microwave, and coffee machine,
- The Adult Basic Education program would like a big open area;
- Science laboratories (Cordova and Glennallen outreach campuses);
- The campus's leased facilities - improve the quality of sound;
- Sidewalks are chipped;
- The exterior of the Main Campus Building is rotting and needs maintenance and painting;
- Wheelchair access is needed at all facilities;
- An expanded theater facilities building would help to improve the already successful conference and the growing Associate in Fine Arts Theater degree program;
- Campus facilities that are more self-sufficient in energy, and generally "more green;"
- Construction of horticulture space and greenhouses;

- Facilities could benefit from accent colors, "10% for Art" would make the campus more vibrant and pleasant;
- Renovation of student housing;
- Accessibility from campus to student housing in conditions of snow, ice, rain, and a paved path. (The city often doesn't plow adequately.);
- Daycare services and early childhood development classes;
- Welding, trade and a metallurgical industry incubation program, welding simulators, millwright, etc.;
- Workforce development;
- Gazebo for outside concerts and other events;
- A replacement art room where photography and other classes can meet;
- Expanded storage facilities (including vehicle storage);
- A student recreation and sports center (e.g., a basketball court, indoor track, space for intramural sports, and fuss ball);
- Renovation of the Wellness Center;
- Use the UA 50 acre parcel vicinity near Pippin Lake for an outdoor recreation program, or the 40 acre parcel on Mineral Creek (Valdez);
- Privacy options for the business offices and student services – some spaces should remain open, others should be more private;
- Ownership of Copper Basin and negotiate space
- A two-story general instruction hall with large spaces that can be broken into classrooms;
- Better flow, furniture, counter space, in the administration area – it needs a central entrance with seating for students waiting and filling out papers
- Snow storage surrounding the campus is disgusting especially because dog owners do not pick up waste

SPECIAL NICHE AND FUTURE VISION

- Residents growing up in the "small town" of Valdez often want to leave after graduation from high school, but then often return to settle after a year or so. The college should help make this possible, and serve the needs of this group, to better enable young people to come back and stay in Valdez;
- The campus is very flexible and responsive to the community as a partner, and there is local pride and appreciation for the resource the college represents. Some ways PWSCC might meet future needs include:



Valdez has nursing workforce shortages and although PWSCC has adequate staff and a new science/nursing lab, enrollment is limited by clinical capacity.

- Help with economic downturn by being responsive to industry, change, opportunities, ways to address energy costs;
- Provide an incubator for meeting local needs locally and creating value added products (e.g., a shop facility for crafts, boat mechanics, and furniture);
- Gear programs to help local residents fill essential community job niches (teachers, hospital, oil field), since many of these jobs are now filled by non-locals;
- Support residents with courses, tools and winter season opportunities for enrichment, developing new skills, and working on personal and community projects;
- Provide services as possible but without directly competing with the private sector. For example, rather than providing subsidized day care, provide training that will make more individuals qualified, since there is generally more demand than there are service providers;
- PWSCC's strong theater program could be expanded upon with an endowed playwright in residence, added production-oriented courses and workshops; etc.;
- Student housing facilities, which are valuable and provide students a safe transition from home to college;
- Leveraging existing experience with Distance Education serving a huge diverse area, including a lot of Native Alaskans. This has lead to significant investment and experience in real-time teaching via technology linked to remote sites. The campus needs ongoing strong IT services, expansion to other sites (5 – 7 now daily, add Whittier) and more online courses;
- PWSCC proudly continues to maintain the core values of a Community College, including scholarship support for Valdez High School graduates, a strong adult basic education program (free GED and SAT Testing), Work Force Development programs, and support for life-long learning;
- Bridging gaps between degree programs, so students can go easily from 2-year, to 4-year programs, and on to masters degrees, all through PWSCC;
- Grasping the Valdez area's great opportunities for an outdoor recreation program. Valdez is a center for backcountry skiing, climbing and other outdoor sports, and the local setting draws students from out-of-state. PWSCC could build on this, in cooperation with McCarthy and Wrangell St. Elias naturalists and scientists, etc. (especially in the summer, when the student housing could be used for workshop housing). Also, taking advantage of outdoor leadership skills working with other partners (e.g., Coast Guard and a boating safety program);
- Tourism – wonderful museum, and central community location
- PWSCC filling a role with military students, who often need the ability to start or finish a program exclusively via distance education;
- With student housing, the Valdez campus can attract students who are seeking an easier transition from small towns to larger campuses;
- PWSCC has a limited summer student base at present, but could expand summer programs and do more workshops and specialized training programs (ASRC 2 month);
- PWSCC could expand vocational learning in Valdez through increased use of the High School facilities in the evenings;
- PWSCC could enhanced its Oil Spill Response Training programs, since all of the key players are in Valdez; and
- As a community college, PWSCC has autonomy, being independently accredited and has the ability to respond when new demand arises. For example, within 3 – 4 months, the college has provided in a timely way new classes that respond to industry needs (e.g., ASRC, Shell).