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## Strategic Priorities Identified for Annual Planning

As part of the annual planning process, the Quality Council (QC) reviewed the sixty four department goals submitted earlier this Fall. For review, the goals were aligned with the priority V7 category most appropriate and a secondary V7 category was identified if warranted. QC reviewed the Strategic Plan, particularly the V7 goal statements under each category. Common themes emerged from the review and were discussed at length. Strategic Priorities for one and three years out for NICC were drafted and went forward as a proposal to Cabinet, College Senate and the Board of Trustees for feedback. The following four strategic priorities were supported and approved:

- Develop and implement an instructional/ institutional technological master plan that enhances the work of the college and is accessible to students, College employees, and other constituents.
- Further develop and implement a strategic enrollment management plan and support students in achieving their educational goals and building a foundation for lifelong learning.
- Evaluate College internal and external programs and processes and engage in continuous improvement efforts.

- Expand and diversify College resources and maintain fiscal integrity through effective management of all resources.

To assist the College in linking approved resources to strategic priorities, short-term (one year) and long-term (three year) initiatives and projects that align with these priorities, will receive the most serious consideration for funding.

Although the downturn in economic conditions may severely limit the level of new funds available for FY10, we nevertheless want to continue to plan for ways to achieve our strategic priorities.

With the creation of new ideas for reallocating funds from lower priority activities, collaboration amongst departments, and implementation of more effective uses of technology, we hope to be able identify funds to support new initiatives.

As your department prepares to submit budget requests for additional funds, please REMEMBER that they are DUE TO YOUR SUPERVISOR by FEBRUARY 2<sup>ND</sup> for his/her approval and prioritization.

(For review of the planning process see the August 2008 *Making Visions Reality Newsletter* on the website under "about NICC" and "accreditation").

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# BEST PRACTICES: ONLINE COURSE TRAINING

Whether your courses at NICC are web-enhanced, online, or a hybrid, beginning Fall 09 students will have the opportunity to experience instruction and materials of their courses and entire degree programs exclusively online through their NICC Xpress home page. NICC faculty are hard at work creating an environment of quality and consistency online.

To fulfill the Higher Learning Commission's permission to meet our student-driven demands for online programs, the Distance Learning Department has developed customized training courses that are required for all instructors teaching online. Developed by NICC's Instructional Designer, Chris Ostwinkle, online faculty have a choice of three online training course options: (1) for instructors new to online teaching; (2) for instructors converting a course from the WebCT platform to NICC's Xpress platform; and (3) for instructors who already teach online in Xpress.

Obviously, the amount of time, hard work, and commitment required to complete one of these training courses is intense, but the return for the instructors, the students, and the College—in professional development and student success—is invaluable.

Kudos to NICC faculty for participating in this leadership role!

## Faculty remarks:

"It's hard to believe that it is December 1 already and our class is completed. I have learned a great deal about teaching online and setting up my course in a more effective manner. I so appreciate the comments, suggestions, and encouragement from everyone in the course. It has been a great experience! I think it would be beneficial for all faculty to take a course on Xpress or at least take advantage of the tutorials. They are very beneficial!" [Susan Schneider](#),  
Nursing Instructor

"Chris set this course up for all of us was truly an "A+" job. I loved that I could finally see it from the students' perspective. I appreciate knowing the shortcuts that I didn't know existed. I love the camaraderie with you people. I like the idea that we will have consistency in our delivery; this should make like much easier for our students." [Robert Sheridan](#), Business Instructor



# Training Course Welcome Page



Campus Campus Life Academics MyXpress Administration System Tools WebTrax for Employees WebTrax for Students Faculty Workstation CruiserAlert Remote Access Continuing Edu

Course Schedules Classes Departments NICC Libraries Distance Learning Registrar/Policies What is my Login ID? What is my password?

Classes Academics > Classes > [TRN-101/301-New to Xpress/Adv. Xpress Users-00001-2008/FA](#) > Welcome

Customize

My Classes

All Classes

Current Class

Welcome

Announcements

Bookmarks

Calendars

Chat Room

Email Members

Message Board

Photo Albums

Shared Files

Syllabus

Tasks

Student Tools

My Assignments

My Assessments

My Course Contents

My Grades

NICC Library Resources

Course Design Tools

Announcements Editor

Assessments Editor

Assignments Editor

Course Designer

Customize Welcome

Syllabus Editor

Class Admin Tools

Attendance Sheet

Bookmark Manager

Calendar Manager

Getting Started



## Welcome to TRN-101/301: New to Xpress and Adv. Users

This course will prepare you to teach your classes online using the Xpress CourseCruiser platform. The course will incorporate practical distance learning standards and guidelines for online course design and teaching, multimedia technology, and online tools. The course will additionally include content on pedagogical theories underlying adult learning and teaching on the web.

To begin this course click on the "Syllabus" link on the Current Class menu at left. After reading the syllabus click on the "My Course Content" link on the Student Tools Menu at Left.

Class Information

Northeast Iowa Community College > District, Support, Gen, Dist Learn > District, Supp, Gen, Dist Lrng

Term : 2008/FA

Credits : 0.0

Instructor : **Ferrie, Jill** Director of Distance Learning

E-mail : [ferriej@portal.nicc.edu](mailto:ferriej@portal.nicc.edu) Office : Distance Learning

Phone : 800-728-2256 X302 Office Hours : Monday--Friday 8:00am--4:30pm

**Ostwinkle, Christopher** Instructional Design Coordinator, Instructor, and Org. Adviser

E-mail : [ostwinkle@portal.nicc.edu](mailto:ostwinkle@portal.nicc.edu) Office : Rm. 123

Phone : 563-556-5110 ext 256 Office Hours : Mon: 8:00 to 4:00 - Peosta

Tue: 9:30 to 4:00 - Peosta

Wed: 9:00 to 4:00 - Calmar

Thur: 9:30 to 4:00 - Peosta

Fri: Varies

Syllabus : [View Detail](#)

Mini Calendar

December 2008

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Announcements

◆ FINISHING COURSE

Class Bookmarks

- Xpression
- Helpdesk Tickets and FAQ
- Xpression
- Free Online Course Materials - MIT Open Courseware

## Distance Learning Update

### Training courses taken, CEUs earned, and online course approval process (PSA's):

- Total Students (faculty and staff) Fall 2008: 39
- Total Students (faculty and staff) Fall/Spring 2008: 13
- Professional Services Agreement (PSA) Xpress/campus/shared campus files/distance learning/faculty

### Online Standards & Guidelines:

- Developed by sub-committee of Online Committee
- Heavy focus on 'student to student' and 'student to faculty' interaction
- Handout: Online Standards & Guidelines

### Technology & its use in online courses & campus events:

- Mediasite audio-video recordings
- Online faculty introductions and lectures
- Live streaming events--such as future graduations
- CE courses to the community
- Technology Resource Room

Submitted by: Christopher M. Ostwinkle, Instructional Design Coordinator

## ***What's Cookin? - from your friendly "Data-Teller"***

***Wondering what kind of data you can get from the IR office? Here are some examples of recent requests:***

Join the parade, and send in your data request today!

- How many alumni does NICC have who have either completed a degree or completed 30 or more credits? Answer: 17,025
- What is the average age for new admits to nursing in FY08? Answer: 25 for Fall '07, 31 for Spring '08.
- Can I get a list of names and addresses of voters in the bond levy election between the ages of 40 and 60 from the 6 northern-most counties? You bet!
- What % of enrollees in developmental math and writing successfully complete the course? Answer: Math 61% (vs. college level success rate of 64%), Writing 68% (vs Comp I success rate of 83%).
- From what program(s) do the largest number of our transfer students to 4-Yr Colleges come from? Answer: (in descending order) AA, AA Business Administration, Education.

How does NICC compare to other community colleges in the nation in the percentage of credit hours taught by full-time faculty? Answer: Favorably; NICC ranks in the 81<sup>st</sup> percentile, with 67% of it's credits taught by FT faculty.

Submitted by Lor Miller, Director of Institutional Research

**Prize-Winning Limerick** by Amanda Udis-Kessler, Director of Institutional Research and Planning at The Colorado College .

Just look at this great set of data  
Analysis makes it much greata  
But all these statistics  
Just make me sadistic  
Perhaps I'll interpret them lata



## Online Program Approval Received from Higher Learning Commission

NICC's approval from HLC for online degree programs

Seven initial degrees to begin fall 09

AA Business Administration

AA Criminal Justice

Agriculture Business

Associate in Art-General

Business Specialist

Health Information Technology

Medical Transcriptionist

## Preparation for Higher Learning Commission Visit Underway

**January 21-23, 2009**

The review team will be located at the Calmar campus with video conferencing used for participation from the Peosta area.

NICC Staff and Faculty, please visit Xpress/Campus/Shared Files/HLC Visit Jan 21-23, 2009 for access to the:

- Agenda for the site visit titled: *Schedule Final Draft 11-24-08*
- Quality Program Summary and Federal Compliance Information (a pdf document sent to HLC as required prior to visit)
- A pdf document sent from the HLC that includes the report of our last visit in academic year 1997-1998 and the Feedback to our 2006 AQIP Systems Portfolio.

You may also go our website and click on the HLC visit link under "NICC News and Events" to see the biographies of the two members of the review team.