The Challenges Faced by Community College Leaders in Preparing for the Future

Houston Community College Executive Speaker Series
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Agenda

10:00 - 10:40: Introduction, major change drivers, signals of change
10:40 - 11:00: Challenges these changes pose for community college leaders
11:00 - 11:20: How should HCC respond?

Change Drivers

- Demographics
- Globalization
- Economic Restructuring
- Information Technology
Demographic Change Drivers

- Age structure is changing
- Nature of students is changing
- Demand for access is increasing
- Ethnic identification mix is changing

Economic

- Globalization
- Economic Restructuring
- Downsizing

Constant training, retraining, job-hopping, and even career-hopping is the norm.
What Lies Ahead in Technology

- Diminution (Nanotechnology/micromachines)
- Wireless networks/Wireless Web/Wi-Fi
- Cloud computing
- Global cyberinfrastructure
- Mobile
- Social networks
- Electronic books
- Simulations
- Virtual reality
- Expert systems
- Video conferencing
- Open source software

Graduates Must Be Able To

- Access, analyze, process, and communicate information
- Use information technology tools effectively
- Be effective problem solvers
- Function creatively and innovatively
- Work effectively as team members
- Work effectively with people from different cultural backgrounds
- Engage in continuous, independent learning

Signals of Change

- Southern New Hampshire University
- Western Governors University
- Rio Salado Community College
- Community College of Vermont
- Open Courseware Consortium/Open Educational Resource
Signals of Change Cont.

Straight Line (http://tinyurl.com/7ug458q)
Council on Aid to Education's Individualized Collegiate Learning Assessment program (www.cae.org)
Knowledge Extension/Learning Counts (www.knext.com)
World University (http://tinyurl.com/lqjraf)
Accreditation by course (http://tinyurl.com/87z79sj) and individual (http://tinyurl.com/85e2zex)

Old Paradigm
- Faculty: actors
- Faculty responsible for content, media, assessment
- Student role = empty vessel
- Faculty work for one institution

New Paradigm
- Faculty: designers of learning experiences
- Faculty work as part of instructional team
- Student role = knowledge creator
- Faculty work for multiple institutions/independently

Old Paradigm
- Semester/tri-quarter
- Courses part of an accredited institutional curriculum
- Set enrollments (e.g., once a year)
- Institutions act independently

New Paradigm
- Varying lengths of time for learning modules
- Courses independent of institution and independently accredited
- Continuous enrollments (e.g., on demand, any time, any place)
- Institutions act with partners
Comparing Old Paradigm and New Paradigm:

- **Old Paradigm**
  - Degrees based on credit hours
  - Information transfer via classrooms/library
  - Libraries: stacks
  - Textbooks

- **New Paradigm**
  - Degrees based on competency exams
  - Information transfer anytime, anywhere
  - Libraries: Starbucks
  - e-books

**Old Paradigm**

- Print publication the primary mode of information transfer
- Publications refereed via professional associations and commercial publishers

**New Paradigm**

- Institutions publish professors’ papers, drafts, notes via open Web access
- Institutions sponsor their professors’ manuscripts to refereed Web-based open access professional journals
- Free online publication as prominent as paid print publications

What are the most critical challenges these changes pose for Houston Community College?
Nominal Group Technique

- Think about the question
- Record your responses
- Round robin
- Discussion
- Advantages
  - Tapping still waters
  - Think before talking

Group Roles

- Facilitator
- Flip chart scribe
- Group Reporter
- Paperhanger

Vote on most critical challenges facing HCC

Place your “dot” on the four most critical challenges
One vote per challenge
Place your votes on the left side of the page
How should Houston Community College respond to the most critical challenges?

Reports

Four most critical challenges
How should HCC respond to the most critical challenge?

The video of this presentation will be available at www.horizon.unc.edu/projects/presentations by November 28, 2011