

Seven Years of Progress



**ONE NACEP ACCREDITATION CYCLE IN
REVIEW**

**JOHNSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
COLLEGE NOW**

About Johnson County and JCCC



- JCCC is located in Overland Park, Kansas
- Johnson County residents: 34 percent hold bachelors degrees, 17 percent masters
- 93 percent of high school students plan to attend a post secondary institution after high school
- Just over 20,000 credit students fall 2012
- 50 degree and certificate programs
- 1,014 full time faculty and staff

College Now Basics



- Established in the late 1980's
- Service area: one county and a portion of neighboring county

The numbers

- 3,100 students
- 300 instructors
- 26 partner high schools
- 15 different disciplines

Kansas CEP Policies



- Limits students to earning 24 hours via CEP
- Principals signature required (no GPA requirement)
- Remedial/developmental classes prohibited for CEP

NACEP



- Early involvement
- Accredited in 2006
- Hosted the national conference in 2008
- Currently the only accredited program in our state

Benefits to our program because of NACEP



- ✓ Alignment with national standards
- ✓ External input and review of program
- ✓ Improved tracking of all aspects of program
- ✓ Additional research (Impact Study)
- ✓ Assistance with transferability of credits
- ✓ More “muscle” when dealing with policy change implementation w/secondary partners
- ✓ Collegial interaction for support and problem solving
- ✓ Near 100 percent instructor compliance with College Now policies (also thanks to a small stipend implemented along with accreditation).

Seven Years of Innovation/Collaboration



- Professional development energized
- Communication with instructors/high schools enhanced
- High school discipline-specific liaisons added
- Strengthened relationship with HS counselors
- Academic alignment highlighted
- Improved site visit form
- Faculty site visit tracking enhanced

Professional Development



- Many long-time instructors (bored with repetitive format)
- Now format continues to include discipline time, but expands into a conference-style format that includes CEP instructors as presenters and co-presenters
- Math and English departments have joined our event for their adjunct professional development
- Three main events each year: Evening events in the fall and spring and one retreat-style event in June.

Communication



- Long (mostly unread) letters turned into newsletters that feature faculty and instructors
- We created a list serve
- In fall 2012 we added text alerts for instructors (the student option for text alerts was created a few years prior)
- Campus magazine mailed to instructors, counselors and principals

Newsletter Benefits



- Highlight state, regional and national awards of our CEP instructors
- Remind instructors of important deadlines and upcoming events
- Refer to basic program information (how to find our office, tuition rates, program website)
- Feature instructors and faculty liaison (great way to win over skeptics!)

Adding High-School Liaisons



Prompted by our on-campus reorganization and the notion of a greater faculty voice, we phased in a new role: The high school discipline-specific liaison to work with the college faculty liaison.

- Motivations included:
 - ✦ More collegial interaction from high school partners
 - ✦ Further enhance our strongest college liaisons
 - ✦ Press our “less vigorous” college liaisons to step it up

High School Liaison Benefits Revealed



Evidence of a new sense of ownership in the College
Now program events: the HS liaisons arrive early to set-up, asking what can be done to assist, presenting at professional development events.

Examples of true collaboration in academic planning:
Working on the common Calculus final, discussing textbook selection for Economics, co-presenting at NACEP (English, Political Sci) and the campus Outcomes Assessment project (Spanish, Political Sci).

High School Counselor Relationship



- Each partner high school designates a “Building Representative” (typically a counselor).
- This relationship is cultivated carefully and deliberately.
- The Building Representatives helped JCCC get the message out about NACEP and helped bring the instructors on board with the understanding of accreditation.
- They are our “choir” for the program within each high school.

Academic Alignment



- Improved tracking of site visits (by liaison and College Now office)
- New site visit form covers the assessment standards
- Syllabus checklist identifies for the instructor and the liaison the essential elements of the syllabus and the key evaluation standards
- Syllabus submission and syllabus approval are key to the course review and, in our case, payment to the instructor.

Faculty Site Visit



- “Pre-Approval letter” phenomenon
- Early instructor approval allowed for early individual orientation sessions with faculty (group orientation is also required)
- Site visits occur within the first semester, then on a rotating basis for veteran instructors
- For disciplines with common finals, faculty liaisons are in the high schools 2-3 times each year, exceeding the requirement.
- Only substantial visits (classroom time) “count” as the faculty site visit, but other contacts help develop the collegial relationship.

Our Website



www.jccc.edu/collegenow

This is a how-to for anyone wanting to establish roles for instructors, liaisons, building administrators, institutions, and form other policies.

Most of what we do is on our website and if it is not found there we will send it your way.

NACEP has been so beneficial to our program, we want to help other programs as they move forward with their alignment process!