



EASTERN WYOMING COLLEGE SELF-STUDY

**HLC VISIT
OCTOBER 25, 26, & 27**

**EWC Fall In-Service
Monday August 16, 2010**



JOURNEY OF TWO YEARS

- **Foundations of Excellence 2008-2009**
 - **Dimension Committees**

- **HLC Criteria 2009-2010**
 - **Expanded Dimension Committees**
 - **Additional Committees**





ACCREDITATION HISTORY

- **1969 – Correspondent Status**
 - Candidacy Status granted in 1972
- **1980 – First Regular Comprehensive Evaluation Visit**
 - Focus Visit in 1986
 - Report submitted in 1987
- **1990 – Comprehensive Evaluation Visit**
 - Three reports submitted in 1993, 1995, and 1997
 - Planning document submitted in 1998





ACCREDITATION HISTORY

- **2000 – Comprehensive Evaluation Visit**
 - Progress report submitted in 2004
 - Request for Institutional Change submitted in 2005

- **2010 – Comprehensive Evaluation Visit**
 - Visit scheduled October 25, 26, & 27





CRITERION ONE

MISSION AND INTEGRITY

Eastern Wyoming College operates with integrity to ensure the fulfillment of its mission through structures and processes that involve the board, administration, faculty, staff, and students.





CRITERION ONE

MISSION AND INTEGRITY

Mission Statement

Eastern Wyoming College is a student-centered, comprehensive community college that responds to the educational, cultural, social, and economic needs of its communities with quality, affordable educational opportunities for dynamic lifelong learning.





CRITERION ONE

MISSION AND INTEGRITY

Vision Statement

Eastern Wyoming College will be a dynamic center for education, acting as a catalyst for individual growth, community engagement and global impact.





CRITERION ONE: STRENGTHS

- **The Mission and Vision Statements are appropriate for the College. Evidence of the organization's commitment to the mission is included in the board of Trustees minutes, College catalog, community education brochures, posters in all academic buildings, strategic planning documents, student handbook, and the web site.**
- **EWC upholds its integrity and reputation.**





CRITERION ONE: STRENGTHS

- The College participated in the Foundations of Excellence® in the First College Year in 2008-2009 which shows the College embraces the concepts of continuous improvement.**
- Policies and practices are in place to ensure that EWC operates with integrity and in accordance with state and federal laws.**





CRITERION ONE: OPPORTUNITIES & CHALLENGES

- Regularly review the College Mission and Vision Statements and develop a written process that clearly shows how the College should address the accuracy of the Mission Statement for changing and dynamic times every three to five years.**
- Align the institution's strategic plan with the "Wyoming Community College Statewide Strategic Plan" which was adopted in 2010.**
- Update and distribute the Faculty Handbook**



CRITERION TWO: PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

Eastern Wyoming College's allocation of resources and its processes for evaluation and planning demonstrate its capacity to fulfill its mission, improve the quality of its education, and respond to future challenges and opportunities.





CRITERION TWO: STRENGTHS

- **Eastern Wyoming College has been growing in enrollment in the last ten years, showing a 16.58 percent increase.**
- **The College has made significant technological progress in the last ten years.**





CRITERION TWO: STRENGTHS

- Distance learning enrollments have grown and represent a continued way to provide access to learners.**
- The College continues to develop a culture of assessment and evaluation throughout its operation.**





CRITERION TWO: OPPORTUNITIES & CHALLENGES

- Explore ways to further break down significant educational barriers for constituents resulting from the College service area's economic and rural conditions.**
- Remain current in technology.**





CRITERION TWO: OPPORTUNITIES & CHALLENGES

- Promote quality as well as access in distance and concurrent courses.**
- Communicate and utilize the data and information gathered to better inform college decision making.**





CRITERION THREE: STUDENT LEARNING AND EFFECTIVE TEACHING

Eastern Wyoming College provides evidence of student learning and teaching effectiveness that demonstrates it is fulfilling its educational mission.





CRITERION THREE: STRENGTHS

- **Eastern Wyoming College has effective course, program, and general education assessment measures in place.**
- **The College has an involved and dedicated faculty group.**





CRITERION THREE: STRENGTHS

- The College has involved and dedicated classified staff, professional staff, and administrators.**
- Faculty, student services, and administrators demonstrate an understanding of and support for an effective learning environment.**





CRITERION THREE: OPPORTUNITIES & CHALLENGES

- Improve knowledge of assessment techniques by posting job aids, updating the EWC Outcomes Assessment web page, and providing more information and training to distance educators and adjuncts about CATs and their value.**
- Implement a mentoring system for newly hired faculty members.**





CRITERION THREE: OPPORTUNITIES & CHALLENGES

- Research and review appropriate evaluation methods for the online and hybrid courses supported by CourseCruiser, the new LMS.**
- Appropriately fund and promote professional development avenues.**





CRITERION FOUR: ACQUISITION, DISCOVERY, AND APPLICATION OF KNOWLEDGE

Eastern Wyoming College promotes a life of learning for its faculty, administration, staff, and students by fostering and supporting inquiry, creativity, practice, and social responsibility in ways consistent with its mission.





CRITERION FOUR: STRENGTHS

- Students are encouraged and have numerous opportunities to interact closely with faculty and staff due to small class sizes and the quality of classroom experiences.**
- All employee groups demonstrate an involvement in and strong commitment to lifelong learning activities.**





CRITERION FOUR: STRENGTHS

- Faculty and staff are contributing to their professional affiliations and communities by giving presentations to organizations and being active, involved community members.**
- Students, staff, and faculty members are recognized for their achievements through numerous avenues.**





CRITERION FOUR: OPPORTUNITIES & CHALLENGES

- Improve processes to better support student activities for part-time and distance education students.**
- Ensure consistent methods and processes are in place so that all student achievement is recognized including athletic, academic and technical skills attainment, and other exemplary activities.**





CRITERION FOUR: OPPORTUNITIES & CHALLENGES

- Broaden college efforts to embrace global awareness among its students and faculty including interaction of intercultural and discipline-specific activities.**
- Keep technology improvements in the forefront of planning efforts in order to retain and maintain strong programs and provide needed services to students.**





CRITERION FIVE: ENGAGEMENT AND SERVICE

As called for by its mission, Eastern Wyoming College identifies its constituencies and serves them in ways both value.





CRITERION FIVE: STRENGTHS

- The College addresses the needs of businesses, individuals, outreach sites, and its three Department of Corrections facilities by developing training programs.**
- The College provides a wide variety of community activities that benefit all constituencies.**





CRITERION FIVE: STRENGTHS

- The College is recognized as a strength in the community providing a focal point for community events.**
- The College has a good reputation for its responsiveness to constituents.**





CRITERION FIVE: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

- Continue to work on completion of First year Experience recommendations and strategic action plans.**
- Collaborate closely with the Department of Corrections for additional education and training opportunities.**





CRITERION FIVE: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

- Explore other activities and partnerships the College can provide throughout the entire service area.**
- Explore ways to maintain its quality services to constituents while working with budget constraints.**





COMPLIANCE SUMMARY

Eastern Wyoming College stays abreast of all required components and demonstrates compliance with federal and state laws, regulations, and rules. It operates with integrity and follows its policies and procedures while protecting the rights of students, faculty, and staff.





EASTERN WYOMING COLLEGE

- **Learner Centered**
- **Connectedness**
- **Journey of Discovery**
- **Future Directed**





EASTERN WYOMING COLLEGE

- **Eastern Wyoming College has engaged in a thorough examination of itself through the self-study process.**
- **Eastern Wyoming College respectfully submits this self-study report to The Higher Learning Commission and requests continued accreditation for a period of ten years.**

