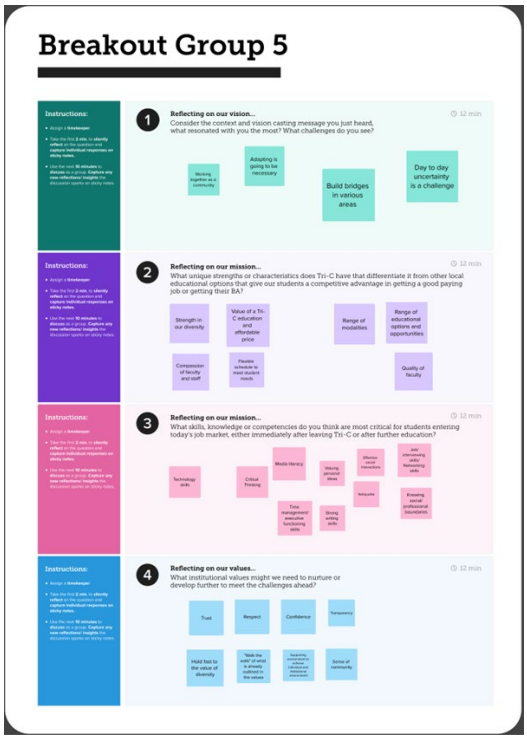
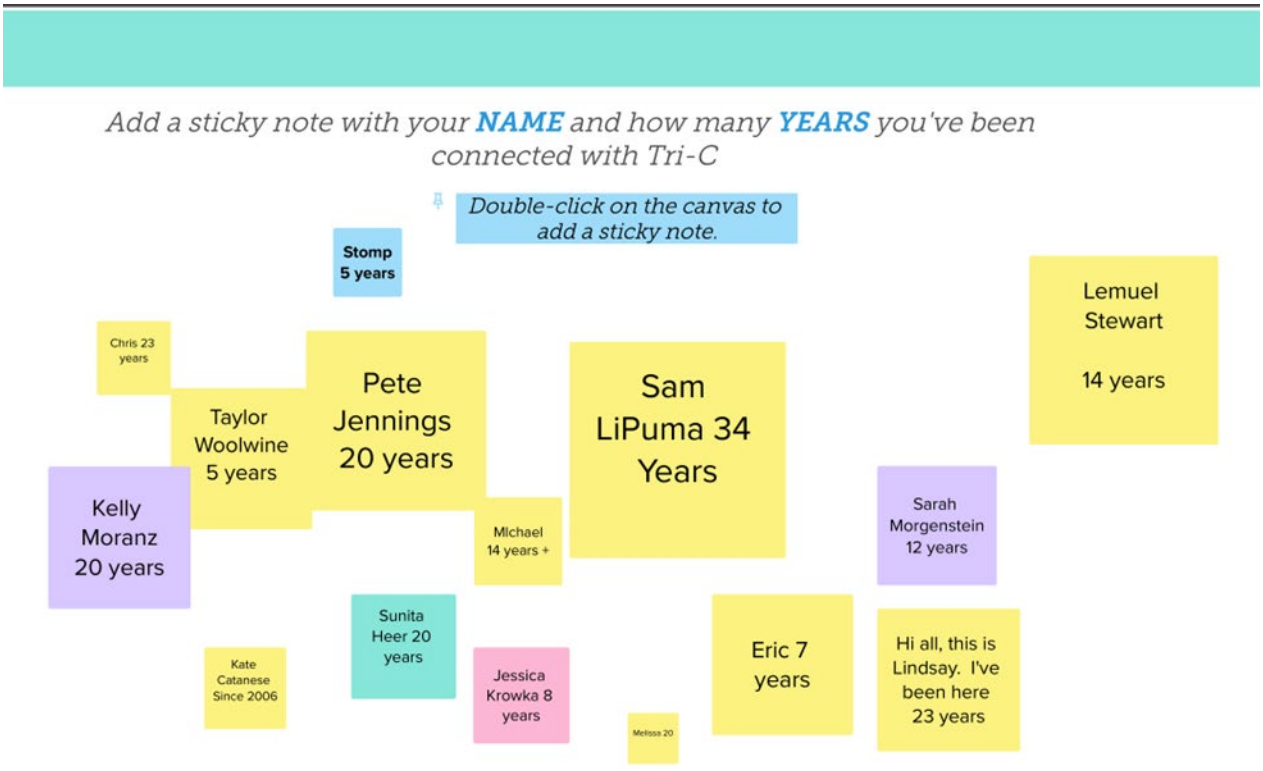
Listening Session Summary
Faculty
Thursday, February 20, 2025





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Question 1

Reflecting on our Vision: Consider the context and vision casting message you just heard, what resonated with you the most? What challenges do you see?

Summary

Proactive transformation in strategic planning requires trust and buy-in from all stakeholders to address change fatigue and ensure alignment with completed plans. Emphasizing intention, creativity, flexibility, and innovation is crucial. Strategic plans often fail due to external and internal challenges, including legislative interference, declining enrollment, and the need to adapt to new modalities.

Community colleges, despite facing enrollment declines, are better equipped to weather these changes. Collaboration and broadening enrollment outreach are vital, as is addressing the long-term impact of online instruction and maintaining engagement amidst evolving educational demands.

Responses

Campus Engagement and Enrollment
Broaden definition of community in enrollment outreach
Enrollment
How do we maintain campus engagement and energy with many new modalities
Need to capture new enrollment demographic
Community Collaboration and Legislation
Build bridges in various areas
Federal and state legislation
Idlers
Working together as a community
Higher Education Challenges
Community colleges are better equipped to weather the future than 4-years
Continuous Decline in enrollment
enrollment ski slope, not a cliff. downward trend
incredible value of comm college!
lack of ROI for higher ed
not mentioned: student support services
That many students aren't employed in the fields they graduated from
The drop in enrollment is scary.
We can't keep operating like it's the good ol days of high enrollment
Online Instruction and Educational Impact
not mentioned: long term effect of online instruction
Perhaps Tri-C needs to consider CCP academic programs like CSU is doing with their education program.
The impact of web based instruction and COVID with respect to on-ground presense
Other
Outside forces Interfering with the college Mission

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The challenge facing us whereby the federal and state governments trying to dictate what we teach and how we teach it. As well as eliminating programs that support our students success - DEI are the supports that ENSURE SUCCESS for our students. This directly interferes with our mission and vision.
Turf wars between institutions
What is the purpose of higher education?
Strategic Planning Transformation
Adapting is going to be necessary
Change fatigue
change, flexibility,innovation
ChangeExternalvs.Internal
Day to day uncertainty is a challenge
importance of intention and creative thinking.
Need to be proactive
Program development/revision takes a long time.
That the strategic plans never align with what is actually completed
The idea that we have to change is one I am glad was said aloud.
The unknown has me a bit jittery. I can't imagine what we will look like after transforming.
Transformation needs trust and buy-in from all stakeholders.
What does transformation really mean in the context of strategic planning?
Why don't strategic plans generate success?
With such a rapidly changing world, I think it may be a challenge to figure out where we need to land. It seems like the future is a fast-moving target.

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Question 2

Reflecting on our Mission: What unique strengths or characteristics does Tri-C have that differentiate it from other local educational options that give our students a competitive advantage in getting a good paying job or getting their BA?

Summary

Tri-C offers highly affordable tuition, making education accessible and minimizing financial barriers. The college provides a wide range of programs, flexible schedules, and multiple campuses to meet students' academic and career goals. The compassionate and high-quality faculty support a diverse and inclusive environment.

Tri-C also prepares students for the workforce with job placement opportunities and up-to-date technology, fostering communication and collaboration among a diverse student body.

The institution serves the community by offering various modalities, transfer options, and free services, ensuring students can succeed both academically and professionally.

Responses

Affordable Education Options
Affordability
Affordable Tuition
Cost is rarely an impact on one's success
Costand accessibility
Ease of transfer
Highly affordable in an age of skyrocketing tuition elsewhwere
low cost and accessibilty
Offers an excellent education at affordable prices
One of things we have to offer is low tuition. With so many doubts about the effectiveness of a college degree, I like how we can offer a low cost way to test the waters.
Value of a Tri-C education and affordable price
we are cheaper than other colleges
Community Engagement Focus
It speaks to serving the community.
Strength in our diversity
when we're at our best, the community created here
Diverse Learning Modalities
more modalities
Range of educational options and opportunities
Range of modalities
Several Transfer Options
Diverse Program Offerings
Job placement at the end of some degrees such as Auto Tech
Flexible schedule to meet student needs
Geographical diversity of four campuses allows options for the county residents
many campuses

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Multiple free services that allow students and residents to be successful
They are attending school in the same area they are likely to be employed
Tri-C offers several programs to meet student's academic and career goals

Other

Cost of education is much lower, allowing students to complete their education with lower overhead cost and debt
It addresses both transfer and workforce programs
No barrier to enrollment...Supports issues of justice
Prepares students to be responsible contributing members of their community

Quality Teaching Approach

Compassion of faculty and staff
High quality instruction
Incredibly passionate and empathetic instructors and staff
Outstanding faculty
Quality of faculty
teaching oriented

Student-Centered Environment

Communication skill-building: in-person classes with students of all ages and backgrounds collaborating
Prepares students to work in today's diverse workforce with cutting edge technology
Provides a diverse experience with students, faculty, and staff coming from a variety of backgrounds.
unique student centered environment.
Varying cultures allow students to grow beyond the classroom

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Question 3

Reflecting on our Mission: What skills, knowledge or competencies do you think are most critical for students entering today's job market, either immediately after leaving Tri-C or after further education?

Summary

Developing strong communication skills, both oral and written, is essential. Effective social interactions, critical thinking, problem solving, and adaptability are vital. Students should demonstrate professionalism, cultural sensitivity, digital and information literacy, and the ability to work in teams. Time management, self-discipline, and lifelong learning are crucial, along with technical and technology skills.

Understanding and engaging with diverse backgrounds and separating fact from fiction are important competencies.

Responses

Communication Skills Development

Communication both verbal and written

communication skills/ interpersonal

Conducting yourself in a professional and collegial manner

Effective social interactions

Effective verbal communication

Knowing social/professional boundaries

Need to develop strong and effective communication skills (oral and written)

Netiquette

Oral Communication - Demonstrate effective verbal and nonverbal communication for an intended audience that is clear, organized, and delivered effectively following the standard conventions of the language

reading and writing comprehension

strong communication skills - both in writing and orally

Strong writing skills

Strong writing skills and ability to communicate well

Written Communication - Demonstrate effective written communication for an intended audience that follows genre/disciplinary conventions that reflect clarity organization and editing skills

Written COmmunication - demonstrate written communication for an intended audience that follows genre/disciplinary conventions that reflect clarity, organization, and editing skills

Critical Thinking Skills

Civic Responsibility - Analyzing the results of actions and inactions with the likely effects on the larger global and local communities

Critical and creative thinking - Analyze, evaluate and synthesize information in order to consider problems/ideas and transform them in innovative or imaginative ways

Critical Thinking

Critical thinking and problem solving skills

Critical thinking skills

Criticcal thinkingand problem solving skills

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Quantitative reasoning -Analyze problems, including real world scenarios, through the application of mathematical and numerical concepts and skills, including the interpretation of data, tables,charts, or graphs They need critical thinking skills.

Digital Literacy and Information Skills

Ability to discern disinformation as well as use AI ethically
Computer literacy
digital literacy
Information and media literacy . Understanding truth, misinformation, and disinformation!
information literacy

Information literacy - the ability to decipher fact from fiction and use empirical evidence to make claims about the world; Acquire, evaluate, and use information from credible sources in order to meet information needs for a specific research purpose. In other words, we do not entertain pseudoscience, conspiracy theories, and historical denial â€" we help students come to fact rather than fiction about the way the world works
Information literacy-separating the factual from opinion

Other

Media literacy
Problem solving skills
self reliance
Valuing personal ideas

Personal and Professional Skills

adaptability
Be at least proficient in their desired declared fields.
Cultural competencies and sensitivity- being able to engage with folks of differing backgrounds - Demonstrate sensitivity to the beliefs, views, values, and practices of cultures within and beyond the United States
Interviewing skills and resume building skills
Job/interviewing skills/Networking skills
Need to demonstrate the ability to work within groups and as individuals
Self Confidence
Social skills (i.e. knowing how to work with teams, employers, clients, etc.)
Softer skill: self-advocacy and self-promotion

Project Management and Time Skills

group/team working skills
project based deliverables
Students should demonstrate the ability to self-manage tasks effectively and maintain awareness of deadlines
Time management
Time management/executive functioning skills
Time management/self-discipline

Technical and Study Skills

Gobal awareness - we no longer are isolated
life long learning skills
Study Skills
Technical skill by program
Technology skills
Technology skills beyond smartphones and tablets

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Question 4

Reflecting on our Values: What institutional values might we need to nurture or develop further to meet the challenges ahead?

Summary

The faculty emphasized the importance of strengthening confidence and trust within the community, mutual respect, inclusion, equity, and transparency. They see a need for Tri-C to enhance its connection with the community, building trust with students through better enrollment, counseling, and registration processes. Academic excellence, integrity, and the value of a liberal arts education are highlighted, alongside a commitment to diversity that extends beyond race and includes accessibility for those with disabilities.

The importance of academic freedom, truth in the pursuit of knowledge, and respect for all individuals within a diverse community is stressed.

Tri-C is encouraged to support both individual and institutional improvement, protect its values, and maintain a sense of community by adhering to its outlined values.

Responses

Academic Excellence and Integrity
Academic Excellence and Integrity
Academic Freedom must be respected and valued.
How do we define respect? Is it based on opinions and beliefs? Work ethic? Work attitude?
integrity - personal integrity, academic integrity
Muat continue to value the respect for all people within our diverse community.
Must always strive for truth in pursuit of knowledge over disinformation.
Must continue to instill respect for academic integrity and excellence
Remain committed to academic excellence
The value of a liberal arts education
Community Engagement and Trust Building
building trust with students: in the process of enrollment, counseling, registration, it's hard not to feel like simply a number. I think that's on Tri-C to reconcile
Confidence
equity
everyone is important and opinions should be valued
inclusion
Mutual Respect
Respect
Strengthen confidence and trust
Transparency
Trust
trust and respect
trust from the community: public opinion of higher education has changed, and it may be up to Tri-C as an institution to reach out more to the community, to show what we do and how well we do it
Other

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"Walk the walk" of what is already outlined in the values

Devotion to the education of the whole community whether they take a single class for fun, pursuing a certification or degree and/or transfer

openness and listening

Protect our values from outside sources

Sense of community

Promoting Diversity and Inclusion

accessibility for those with disabilities and other barriers, whether they be economic or based on social identity characteristics

diversity

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Acceptance

inclusivity

Student Goal Support and Community Improvement

How do we assist students in measure individual goals?

self-improvement; improvement of the world and community we live in

Supporting environment to achieve individual and institutional environment

Upholding Diversity Values

"Diversity" needs to be defined beyond race, color, creed

Hold fast to the value of diversity

Protect Diversity

We need to continue to have a commitment to diversity.

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Strategies to Thrive

What strategies should Tri-C consider to do more than meet the challenges ahead, but thrive?

Summary

Focus on balancing administration with faculty and staff, strengthening joint governance, and making student services easily accessible both online and in-person.

Ensure safety on campus, engage communities in classrooms, oppose certain government mandates, protect diversity initiatives, and emphasize the long-term value of higher education for professional success and personal growth.

Promote information literacy, lifelong learning, and maintain adherence to missions and values while engaging the community.

Responses

Campus Safety and Community Engagement

Need to take a stance against some government mandates

Work toward keeping Tri-C safe for everyone.

Work towards bringing the communities not just to the campus, but to the "classrooms"

Diversity and Education Advocacy

Continue to engage community

Information literacy is an extremely important skill not only for academics, but for life. Tri-C is a leader in providing this education for students.

Let us stay fairly on task with our missions and values - but build on them for the future generations

promote life long learning

Promote the value of an education not only for job placement but also for personal growth and development

Protect Diversity Initiatives

Stress the value of a higher education for long-term professional success and that of the student's community (family, neighborhood, etc.)

Improving Student Services

Make our student services as easy and accessible to find as possible. This goes for online and in-person

Work to reduce the imbalance between the top-heavy administration and the faculty and staff. Strengthen joint governance.