

Listening Session Summary
Students
Wednesday, April 9, 2025

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Question 1

Reflecting on our Vision: Consider what you just heard about Tri-C needing to change - what aspect of that message resonates with you the most, and why?

Summary

Students express the need for better career guidance, engaged and knowledgeable instructors, and accessible counseling services. They seek more tutoring for specific programs, expanded course offerings, and improved resources for mental health and financial support, especially for international students. There is a call for spending transparency, better communication between staff and students, and more extracurricular spaces. Concerns include dissatisfaction with current food services, the process of creating club events, and the need for programs catering to older students and those with children. Students desire practical training and education in trades, and better support for international students and those with learning disabilities.

Responses

Academic Resources and Counseling

Consider what academic fields should be focused on to meet demands of incoming students

Counselors not available

ensure instructors and professors are engaged in teaching

Have more resources / sessions available for mental health

Make e-books optional (not mandatory)

make sure teachers know the work

making sure teachers are here to help us out when needed

More knowledge and guidance in what careers you can have within your degree

More tutoring/counseling for specific programs

New chairs in TLC

Psychology does not have an in-house tutor. Why not??

program specific counselors expanded course offerings to include non-traditional/freelance work class audits/instructor evaluations regardless of tenure status recreational space or partnership with local gyms to enhance student well being expanded partnerships with 4-year universities to bridge programs minimize unnecessary gen ed courses for trades

The Spanish department feels like it's there for show. No tutoring service in Spanish. the sass offers translation and alex translates in Spanish but once you are done with alex you are screwed if you still need the service

Tri-C has not been the same for the last 15 years, academics have gotten increasingly more amazing.

What has caused the dissatisfaction between private and community college students/

Career Development and Job Readiness

Are kids dissatisfied with college because they were told they should go but they don't actually want to be there? What if there's more in college that gives students training and education in the trades because that might be what they want? Would a community college feel like it's going backwards if that's what they focus on? I think it's important to give students what they want.

I think a shadowing program would be beneficial. many students with LD or introverts learn from mimicry. Maybe honor student could get extra credit of something. Iron sharpens iron

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More directly involved with employment after education

Facilities and Extracurricular Activities

change the process of creating club events

help make it easier to use the club websites

Make resource providers more knowledgeable - because it gets troublesome being sent back and forth between the centers when things are not understandable.

Westshore campus needs more extracurricular spaces

Westshore needs more extracurricular spaces like gym, or sports spaces. There are many classrooms that are never used that can be transformed in a gym, for example, or a space to relax or study that is separate from the cafeteria or public spaces.

Food Services and Campus Costs

Change the food service in the colleges. The prices in the cafeteria, shop are expensive . there is no reason to spend your money on campus or the add money to our stamp card. Example the vending machines charge you a surcharge for using a card. I make sure to bring things from home rather than spend a dime on campus.

Spending transparency- where is our money going?

the same way they care about our money to care about us

International Student Support

How hard it is to get in touch with counselors

In thinking about international students in a particular program, have noticed that when younger students come here, they are different in what they expect because they plan on being here for longer. They don't have the same maturity to take advantage of what's offered to them.

Meet the needs of the older student demographic (25+); especially childcare concerns

More resources and financial help for international students

Student Engagement and Experience

being more open if a person wants to come back after using there credits

Changing for the adaptations of jobs and the community interest. I have many friends looking to take newer courses, and i love recommending Tri-C.

communication between staff and students

have more open opportunities for those that need extra help

I believe more programs for students with children.

I hate the thought my college is using me

making sure our word is worth something

More students who are older than 25 years old. Interested by this.

student engagement

Students more dissatisfied with college experience now. Is this because they don't have a plan? Is this why they're dissatisfied?

using strategic planning to actually benefit the target population rather than a check off the list for accreditation, funding, etc.

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Question 2

Reflecting on our Mission: What makes Tri-C special to you in helping you achieve your educational goals?

Summary

Tri-C offers a clean and safe environment with flexible scheduling, allowing students to balance work and school. It provides affordable tuition, easy credit transfers, and various programs including specialized degrees and transfer pathways. The institution is known for its caring and supportive professors, small class sizes, and abundant resources such as tutoring and financial aid. The sense of community, particularly at the Westshore campus, and opportunities for internships and student involvement contribute to a positive educational experience.

Responses

Affordability and Accessibility

Affordability accessibility active student life department at Westshore for support

Affordable tuition and courses

More affordable than large 4-year universities

the opportunities and affordability of access

Tri-C has some more specialized degrees that apply directly to specific jobs

Caring Professors

Amazing professors willing to help and are flexible

Having professors that actually care

How great my professors are. They are caring

I do Program 60. I'm impressed with how helpful everyone is. People go out of their way to help, staff and professors both.

I love the teachers on the Western campus. they are engaging and knowledgeable

Incredible professors and educators

Kind Professors and academic workers/helpers.

Never heard a professor tell a student they can't help.

Professors have been very helpful and caring. They have ben passionate and sensitive to the needs of us, students.

Smaller class sizes make it easier to have personal relationships with the professors

the relationships that I have made talking to some teachers

Clean and Safe Environment

Tri-C is always clean. No one wants to come to a messy or dirty place - everyone likes coming to a place that's clean and safe.

Community Support

be more involved with students

being able to interact with other students during certain school wide events

being able to meet new people through classes and clubs

Being in TRIO

I love the small campus-- I get to see familiar faces frequently

some professors actually reach out to make sure we are doing well

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the caring staff

The close proximity and affordability (compared to 4yr universities) enables me to pursue my education while caring for my family

Tri-c feels like a community, specially Westshore. Thanks to this, I have been able to achieve some personal goals with the help of others in daily life things.

Flexible Learning Options

A 2-year associates degree is less of a life commitment than a 4-year bachelor's degree for someone returning to school later in life

being able to finish your degree here and not transfer

I have to opportunity to choose when and where I can take classes since I am balancing work and school.

Offering summer classes has helped me complete pre-req's much more efficiently

The opportunity to be flexible around a set and busy schedule

Other

Does not make me feel inferior towards students that attends a 4-year university events like this one

Student Resources

all the programs they have

Amazing resources including free tutoring.

I love the math lab and English lab. I would not be doing as well in class without it.

Internship opportunities

Many resources and avenues willing to help

Scholarships & financial aid.

The counselors and tutors are very helpful

Tutoring and one-on-one help with classes

Transfer Opportunities

Easy credit transfers to accredited universities

Many strong transfer pathways

Strong transfer credits to other schools.

the transfer program

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Question 3

Reflecting on our Mission: What skills, knowledge or competencies do you most want to obtain or grow during your time at Tri-C?

Summary

Students aim to develop essential skills such as time management, organization, critical thinking, and networking. They seek professional development, better study habits, and a balance between education, work, and self-care. Goals include obtaining degrees, becoming competent in their fields, gaining practical knowledge, and improving communication and leadership skills. They value opportunities for community involvement, respect for diverse opinions, and preparation for employment and career advancement.

Responses

Academic Success

- Better study habits
- Getting out of my comfort zone
- Good GPA
- i want to be more proficient at all my classes
- Overall decent education
- Overall education

Career Preparation

- As a nursing student, I want to obtain as much knowledge related to nursing as I can finding employment fast
- Getting a better understanding of what I want to do career-wise and connections i can make along the way
- I hope to achieve a satisfactory grade average at the end of my courses, allowing me to enter into my desired program.

I want to get my associate degree and to transfer to a four year college.

Obtain my associates and pass my registry to open the door for employment in my field of choice to me, this is a redundant question that may not get the desired answer as students want to learn skills, knowledge, and competencies related to their field.. additional items could include respecting other opinions professional debate and difference of belief standing up for themselves when it comes to being mistreated in the class networking and professional development (including young professional groups) resume building and interview prep (department specific)balancing higher education, work, and self-care life skills- cooking, budgeting (to pay back those student loans), basic maintenance, etc.

Networking

Being able to socially network with a wide range of people to get myself and others where they want to be.

- more opportunities to get involved with the community outside of the college
- networking
- professional organization
- tri c can help opening doors
- when you have online classes maybe do a in person to get to know our classmates

Other

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I enjoy Pearson

making sure they reach out to students more especially on the last semester

Personal Growth

Being more involved

Being more organized

better understanding of how to deal with stress

I want to gain more skills in patience and focus and graduate for my dream career

Lay the groundwork for potentially furthering my education in the future

money management

stronger study habits

Skills Development

Better communication skills

Critical thinking

Data analysis and overall research

Get the sense that Tri-C reaches out to employers to learn what they want from students, so want Tri-C to offer training and education in those areas of knowledge and those skill sets.

good nursing judgement

Growth mindset

Organizational skills and effective planning

patience

What I've heard from students/what I think is that what students need to learn are leadership skills, social skills, being able to keep up with key skills for jobs today (e.g. technology skills).

Time Management

Critical thinking and time management

I hope that I can develop time management and organization skills. Also, I would like to gain the knowledge necessary to be a competent scientist.

learning to use my time more wisely

Maintaining a decent work life balance

time management, study skills

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Question 4

Reflecting on our Values: What values or virtues would you like Tri-C to have that might help you achieve your educational goals?

Summary

Recommendations for students attending a 4-year college include perseverance, understanding the balance between academic and personal life, and maintaining steady communication with understanding teachers. Valuing professors who engage with students, providing accessible resources, and offering tutoring and external support are crucial. Prioritizing mental health, accommodating personal issues, and supporting financial needs are important. Encouraging travel, community involvement, and diverse cultural experiences enhances the college experience. Clear communication about course content, reasonable assignment expectations, and promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion are essential. Additional feedback opportunities, scholarships, grants, and diverse class offerings are recommended.

Responses

Academic Engagement

A decent temperance across future professors

A set standard of patience across online professors

Continued collaborations with other accredited programs.

Easy to read syllabus that explain the entire course content and schedule.

More professors that love what they teach rather than it just being a job

more understanding teachers

provide more extra-curricular classes guided towards your course goals

Provide specific classes towards zoology

reasonable expectations for assignments

Tutoring and external resources.

Value feedback from students--many of us prefer physical textbooks but are required to use e-books (makes learning more difficult)

Value professors who engage with students and put effort into teaching. I want to learn as much as I can, so I need a teacher who is willing to share their knowledge with me

Career Preparation

Scholarships / Grants

Transfer students to jobs related to their fields.

Course Accessibility

being able to accept doctors note and make up late work

if you miss a assignment your grade shouldn't drop crazy

Making classes more accessible

Minimal waitlist times for courses and classes like Radiology

more classes offered with different times

Diversity and Inclusion

More diversity around campus, like more diverse food options, not just sandwiches. Cultural places and event through the year. Help targeted to international students like, where to find resources like,

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health insurance, phone services, affordable options of housing, how to use transportation, more transportation options, etc. How to navigate the college, and the are in general.

Supporting diversity, equity, and inclusivity

Feedback Mechanisms

Additional student feedback opportunities for both credit and non-credit classes. More feedback options for all customer-facing positions

Commitment integrity respect (mutual) fortitude service compassion community stewardship

New up-and coming programs for newer jobs like AI.

Other

being able to have a steady communication and teachers understanding

Perseverance

recommendations for students going to a 4-year college

understanding that we have life out of tri c

Value professors who engage with students and put effort into teaching. I want to learn as much as I can, so I need a teacher who is willing to share their knowledge with me

Student Support Services

Accessible resources always

allowing time to recover from possible personal issues

Always offering support for those with financial needs

being able to have a steady communication and teachers understanding

Information on study programs

Prioritizing mental health, actually trying to get the resources a student might need.

Travel, community. I think what could improve Tri-c is more involvement and engagement in person (which I see tri-c already trin to get) but also traveling more. Having opportunities for people to travel...if not internationally, within the country. Having different volunteer events and programs within the country for people directly being able to work in their interests.

Tutoring and external resources.

understanding that we have life out of tri c

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Strategies to Thrive

What's one idea of something new that Tri-C could do to make the college work better for you?

Summary

Students are requesting more study spaces, especially at Westshore and Western Campus, better access to tutoring and support services, and free graduation caps and gowns. They seek improved communication with student engagement and easier website access, more support for international students, and help with language barriers. Additional feedback opportunities, high school transition programs, and better teacher-student communication are needed. There are calls for life skill classes, daycare, better food programs, and more classes at multiple campuses. Students also want accessible office hours, insurance programs, and more programs outside of campus. They emphasize the need for passionate teachers who understand students' external stressors and suggest reviewing successful teaching strategies. Specific requests include Spanish math tutors and home economics classes.

Responses

Accessibility Initiatives

- better food program
- body double options
- More accessibility to programs outside of campus
- More study spaces for Western Campus
- Shadowing program
- Spanish math tutors

Communication Improvement

- accessible office hours
- easier accessibility to tutoring and support services
- have more classes available at multiple campuses
- high school transition programs
- interpretive services
- language barriers

Education Support

A general guideline for all professors would be nice. Mostly just teachers who love the thing they teach and don't just see the class hours as a means for a paycheck. People who see students as individuals who have outside lives and stressors outside their lives

Additional feedback opportunities for both credit and non-credit courses towards the beginning and end of class. Also, additional student feedback for customer-facing departments, faculty, and staff members.

More simplistic ways to communicate with student engagement and easier access to their websites without having to constantly send emails back and forth about how to work through those websites.

Review teaching strategies that show the most success throughout the different programs-- encourage adapting those strategies to improve outcomes for all

- teacher - student communication

Life Skills Development

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Home Ec classes

Life skill classes

Life skills

Student Resources

More study spaces! Especially Westshore.

counseling help

daycare

graduation cap and gown should be free

Housing

insurance programs

More help for international students please, more financial help for international students, more resources for us.

Other

making sure we only take classes we need