

Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC)  
2017-2021 Strategic Planning -- Four Key Themes  
CSC All-Campus Meeting 1-11-2018 Responses

1.) SHIFTING DEMOGRAPHICS – CHANGING COMPOSITION OF THE STUDENT BODY

- Increasing racial, ethnic, and economic diversity
- Lack of population growth resulting in excess capacity
- Persistent achievement gap for socioeconomically challenged students
- Amplified need to serve students with some college but no credential

I. Why is this theme important to the Frontier and Remote and/or High Plains region?

- a) Rural population is declining
- b) Significant Native American and Hispanic populations within service region
- c) Significant first generation college student population at CSC
- d) Significant percentage of CSC students qualify for Transitional Studies

II. Describe any innovative ways in which your institution is addressing this theme?

- a) Dual-Credit courses
- b) RHOP
- c) RLOP
- d) Attention to veterans
- e) Transitional Studies program
- f) STRIVE program
- g) FYI and Essential Studies courses provide opportunity for our students to talk about gender, power, etc.

2.) EVOLVING MODES OF PACKAGING AND DELIVERING EDUCATION

- Challenge to deliver better outcomes through technology
- Increased focus on competencies
- Demand for flexibility in higher education from early college to post-graduate studies
  - Credit transfer, degree options, stackable credentials, and unbundling learning
- Diversification of credentials – licensures, badges, certificates, and certification

I. Why is this theme important to the Frontier and Remote and/or High Plains region?

- a) Previously, CSC had vocational programs and two-year certificates
- b) ACBSP is looking at accrediting certificate programs in addition to degree programs.

II. Describe any innovative ways in which your institution is addressing this theme?

- a) Music accreditation focuses on competencies
- b) Online MBA

3.) DECLINING SHARE OF PUBLIC INVESTMENT IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC)  
2017-2021 Strategic Planning -- Four Key Themes  
CSC All-Campus Meeting 1-11-2018 Responses

- Students paying a larger share of the cost of education resulting in greater student debt
- Increased expectation for return on investment and postsecondary education as practical career preparation to address workforce goals
- Heightened discussion about the value of liberal arts education

- I. Why is this theme important to the Frontier and Remote and/or High Plains region?
- a) It's our state mandate to serve rural students
  - b) Maybe it's our job to educate the community as well as the students re: value of education/college
  - c) CSC already has a high Return on Investment (ROI)

- II. Describe any innovative ways in which your institution is addressing this theme?
- a) Using Emeritus faculty for contract work
  - b) Essential Studies Program

4.) DESIRE FOR COLLABORATION BEYOND THE INSTITUTION

- Push for higher education to build capacity to better collaborate with other institutions, K12, accreditors, Federal government, legislatures, and employers
- Drive to leverage increasingly complex data and link longitudinal data systems

- I. Why is this theme important to the Frontier and Remote and/or High Plains region?
- a) Collaboration reduces isolation
  - b) We need to have connections with other regions in order to expose our students to opportunities for future careers
  - c) Maximizing personnel, especially if we lack specialized skills

- II. Describe any innovative ways in which your institution is addressing this theme?
- a) RHOP & RLOP
  - b) Technology (IT) has developed collaborations with state legislature
  - c) U.S. Forest Service partnerships
  - d) Swimming Pool project with City of Chadron
  - e) Working with nearby community colleges to build relationships
  - f) Range Day
  - g) Scholastic Day
  - h) High Plains Band Day
  - i) Theater Day
  - j) Art Day
  - k) National History Day
  - l) Study Abroad programs (with state colleges and community)
  - m) IT makes purchases of scale by belonging to consortiums