



**Santee
Macy
South Sioux City**

Nebraska Indian Community College Weekly Newsletter

Monday, April 27, 2009

ASSESSMENT AT NICC

As noted in a previous newsletter, assessment continues to be an area of focus for NICC. Why do we do this? The following is the purpose of assessment at NICC:

Nebraska Indian Community College asserts that the assessment of student learning has the following goals:

- Measure and document student progress
- Identify strengths and weaknesses in institutional offerings in order to build upon strengths and improve weak areas for the benefit of student learning
- Provide data on which to base strategic planning and programming decisions
- Fulfill accreditation requirements

NICC seeks to create a culture of assessment at this institution where assessment is viewed as an integral, formative process which directs positive changes within the institution. As such, the results of assessment are to be consistently reviewed, considered in decision-making processes, and available to all constituencies. Primarily, the constituencies utilizing this data will be internal constituencies, such as Academic Council, Academic Dean, Admissions, Advising, & Registration Committee, etc. However, external constituencies such as the tribes, communities, and community agencies shall also have access to our assessment outcomes.

While assessment of student learning must be integral to decision-making at NICC, it must also be used in a responsible manner which supports academic growth and freedom and does not inhibit learning in the classroom. As such, assessment of student learning is NOT to be used at NICC for the following purposes:

Assessment of faculty (especially for hiring and pay scale considerations)

To create a learning environment where instructors teach to the assessment rather than encouraging holistic student learning

This purpose was included in the March, 31, 2009 report to the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), submitted by the Academic Dean on behalf of our Academic Council. The reviewers noted many strengths of our assessment plan and process. In the purpose, it was noted that explaining what was NOT the purpose of assessment was innovative and important. Any comments on this are welcome (abadmoccasin@thenicc.edu).

Interim Reports for Accreditation

The interim reports submitted by NICC for continued for accreditation have been favorably accepted by the HLC. This means that NICC continues to be accredited and that we are doing are jobs at rectifying issues that were noted at our last accreditation site visit. We will continue to work hard to serve our students as their institution of higher education. Thank you to each of our students!

General Student Information

Santee Elder Dinner

Friday, May 1 at 1pm at the Oyate Oyanke Community Center

Graduation

Graduation will occur Friday, May 29, 2009 at 4:00 in Macy at a location yet to be determined.

Summer Classes

Students, the 2009 Summer Classes have been posted. See your Campus Advisors to register for summer! Summer Session begins June 1.

Summer Tuition Scholarships

This summer, students who do not receive financial aid (but have applied for it) will be given NICC tuition scholarships. This will cover tuition for courses (\$80 per credit, \$240 for a 3 credit course). Fees and book costs are the student's responsibility. This is a great deal for getting some coursework done! If you have any questions, please contact abadmoccasin@thenicc.edu.

Lance Armstrong Foundation Cancer Survey

The Lance Armstrong Foundation would like to hear your thoughts and experiences with cancer in our communities. This is an important as it gives us a chance to let Native American voices be heard. Below is the survey link:
http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=WgQ2XM20PgUWeAlfAbeRpw_3d_3d