NICC Strategic Priorities: FY11 – FY15:

MAKING A CASE

Mission Statement:

- Northeast Iowa Community College provides accessible, affordable, quality education and training to meet the needs of our communities.

Vision Statement:

- The Northeast Iowa Community College educational community will live the values of service, respect, innovation, stewardship and integrity within a culture of continuous improvement.

NICC Strategic Priorities: FY11 – FY15:

1. **Develop and implement an instructional/institutional technology master plan:** to enhance the functional work of the College and provide accessibility to meet the diverse needs of students, employees, and other constituents. The priority includes, for example, installing current technologies for hardware and software systems for both credit and non-credit programs, scheduling training needs for users, devoting capacity for placing appropriate services and materials on-line for 24/7 access, performing routine updates of the College's web information, and providing best practice usage of adaptive technologies for diverse learners.

2. **Expand and diversify College resources and maintain fiscal integrity:** through effective management of all resources. This priority includes, for example, facilitating renovation and construction projects, maintaining current facilities, providing personal and professional development opportunities to staff, connecting donors' deep passion with the College's needs, partnering with external entities to support our credit and non-credit programs, assisting all departments and programs with sound budget management practices, seeking grant opportunities and funding sources, and embracing green initiatives.

3. **Further develop and implement a strategic enrollment management plan:** to support students in achieving their educational goals and building a foundation for life-long learning. This priority includes, for example, reviewing NICC's current Learning/Writing Center model and developmental education supporting diverse learners, harnessing the benefits of adaptive technologies, engaging the Learning Support Services Council in addressing student support issues, providing support services for on-line and distance learning programs, and soliciting student feedback via the SENSE survey.

4. **Evaluate the College's internal and external programs and processes and engage in continuous improvements:** This priority t includes, for example, heightening the students' awareness of the 12 common learning objectives, attaining re-accreditation for current programs and accreditation for new ones, fostering win-win collaborations with high schools and external agencies, and enhancing current programs with external partners' assistance to meet industry needs.

5. **Foster a more effective and efficient communication strategy for the College:** This priority includes, for example, supporting timely communication with internal and external constituents via the web and other media, updating our security and safety systems, using inclusive language

wherever appropriate, promoting awareness of accreditation processes and guidelines, placing pertinent program materials on-line for public access, streamlining College publications to engage all stakeholders, nurturing relationships with current donors and cultivating potential donors, using quality customer service practices, and advancing the work of our Institutional Research Office.

6. **Promote Student Access and Support (Credit & Non-Credit):** This priority includes, for example, supporting a culture of inclusion (e.g., disability and counseling services, language, diversity), availability of up-to-date technology equipment and training, ease of access to continuing education programs, enhancement of student services (e.g., financial aid, advising, admission), access to learning resources (e.g., Learning Center, developmental/remedial/tutorial education, adult literacy services), enhancement of services provided at our Centers, affordability initiatives for all students (e.g., grants, book rental program), availability of learning communities and opportunities on and off campus, access to well-crafted programs (face-to-face-, hybrid, on-line), and availability of timely, accessible, and up-to-date information via the NICC web site.

7. **Support Faculty and Staff Development:** This priority includes, for example, supporting program review and improvement, access to best practices and training, availability of up-to-date technology equipment and training, access to learning communities and opportunities on and off campus, and access to on-line programs and services.

8. **Embrace Assessment and Continuous Improvement:** This priority includes, for example, supporting accreditation and re-accreditation of programs and services, curricular reviews (e.g., up-to-date curriculum, process, and resources), enhancement of on-line programs and delivery, promotion of cross-discipline and inter-departmental/program collaborations, the making and assessing of data-driven decisions, availability of up-to-date technology equipment and training, and the articulation of a cohesive framework of developmental, remedial, tutorial, and other educational support services.

9. **Enhance our College Environment:** This priority includes, for example, supporting a culture of inclusion, information security (e.g., privacy, confidentiality), health and wellness initiatives, the use of green products and services, adequate and appropriate spaces and facilities, appropriate equipment and technology acquisition and replacement cycles, sound management and usage of resources and services, appropriate staffing for programs and services, and partnerships with external stakeholders for resource development and acquisition.