

May 14, 2018

Dear Members of the Learning Council and College Council,

Our multiyear Learning Plan development process has gained significant momentum and a clarity of vision over the past months, driven by several factors: 1) research on exemplars from other colleges; 2) development of an outline for the plan and understanding of plan content; 3) discussions with councils, committees, and other groups; 4) campus wide conversations about planning, institutional effectiveness, and governance; and 5) feedback from accreditation site reviewers, the Institutional Effectiveness Committee, and the Governance Subcommittee of College Council.

The vision that has emerged is that the Learning Plan will serve as the overarching strategic vision and plan for the college, as described in the conversation kit excerpt below and illustrated in concept map on the following page.

“The Learning Plan will represent our collective vision for achieving excellence in our learning environment, the heart of our mission as a community college. Building upon prior strategic plans, assessment activities, and improvement initiatives, the learning plan will elevate learning as our prevailing guiding principle and provide a five-year framework for achieving objectives in support of our Core Themes: Responsive Community Engagement, Accessible and Equitable Learning Opportunities, Quality Educational Environment, and Individual Student Achievement. The Learning Plan is intended to function at the institutional level, providing overarching vision, direction, and guidance to support strategic direction, decision making and resource allocation. The plan will support the initiative of individuals, departments, and divisions as we work in concert to improve institutional capacity and fulfill our mission.” – Spring 2018 Learning Plan Conversation Kit

During spring term outreach and discussions with all governance councils, plus campus conversations on April 25 and 26, we have received overwhelmingly positive responses to this vision for the plan, particularly around the elevation of teaching and learning, the simplification of strategic directions/priorities, and the focus on programs and services as the key for implementation and operationalization. We’ve also received affirmative feedback about the outline we have drafted for the plan, which provides a centralized repository and integration mechanism for college-wide and program-specific data, analysis, and strategy.

To date we have developed a plan outline, compiled extensive feedback on the learning plan blog, and are starting to build out the outline content. Our current time line is to complete the plan in fall term 2018.

While receiving positive feedback and energy around the vision for the plan, we’ve also heard numerous questions and concerns voiced about the expanded scope of the plan, timing of leadership transitions at the college, its intersection with parallel efforts around institutional effectiveness and governance review, and the need for expanded process and participation. We share these questions and concerns and are seeking your guidance and direction before moving forward.

Specifically, we have the following questions:

- 1) Do you support our continuing work with the expanded vision for the Learning Plan?
- 2) Should our work be commissioned under College Council as, in effect, we will be developing a new, overarching strategic plan for the college?
- 3) Should we expand our time line to extend to July 2019 to provide time for the new Vice President of ASA to provide executive leadership and participate in the work, and also allow for institutional effectiveness and governance recommendations to inform the work?
- 4) Should we move forward with our intent to expand the Learning Plan Development Subcommittee to include members from each of the governance councils, core theme teams, and major program/service areas of the college?

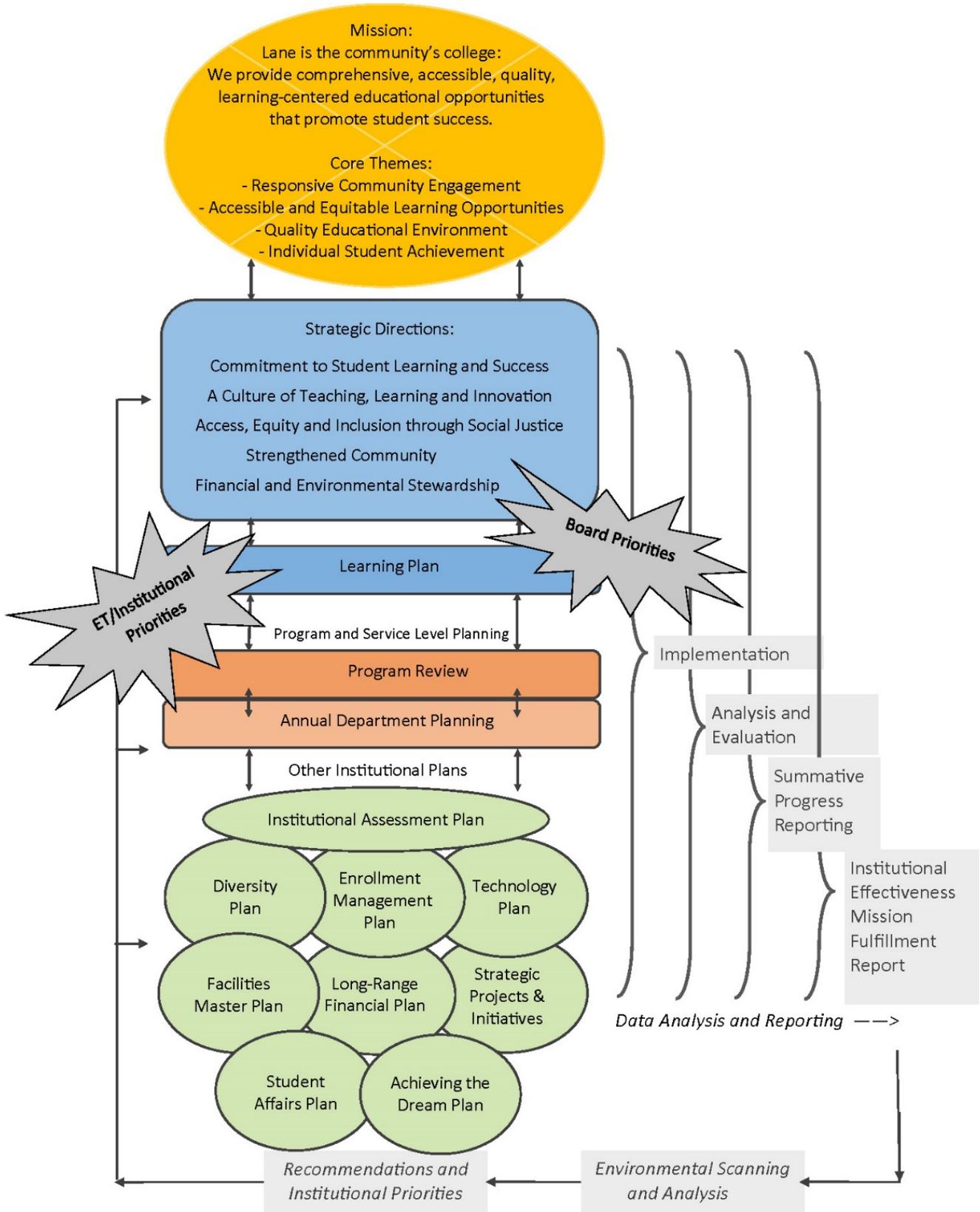
We welcome the opportunity to attend an upcoming council meeting to receive your guidance and direction.

Best Regards,

Christina Howard
on behalf of the Learning Plan Development Subcommittee

Concept Map: Current State

Lane's Planning and Institutional Effectiveness Structure: Current State



Concept Map: Future State

Lane's Integrated Planning and Institutional Effectiveness Structure: Envisioned Future State

Lane is the community's college:
We provide comprehensive, accessible, quality, learning-centered educational opportunities that promote student success.

