



NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM
H. Martin Lancaster, President

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 27, 2000

TO: Presidents
Planners

FROM: J. Keith Brown

SUBJECT: Required Accountability Surveys for 1999-2000

The implementation of the new performance measures and the transition from the old Annual Program Review has necessitated changes in the way we collect data. These changes, in several areas, have required the development of new software programs by our IS section. Simultaneously with this requirement came the process of preparing for Y2K and the transition of IS staff to new positions and responsibilities.

The end result of these many changes is that we are behind schedule in the development of three software programs necessary for collecting data for some of the new performance measures. In addition, new survey questions have not been finalized, further delaying the implementation of some performance measures. These delays are having direct impact on the two developmental student measures and the measures requiring survey data from noncompleters.

As we have always tried to do in the past, if the System Office causes delays, we delay the implementation of those activities for which the college has no control. Therefore, the following changes are being made for 1999-2000.

1. Developmental Student Data: These data will not be reported in 1999-2000. The software should be implemented in time to allow collection in 2000-2001.
2. Noncompleter Survey: This survey is not required for 1999-2000. The software and new questions should be implemented in 2000-2001.
3. Goal Completion and Satisfaction of Program Completers: This survey is required. The group to be surveyed is all graduates from the 1998-99 academic year. The survey should utilize the former Annual Program Review questions. The data will be collected from the colleges on **June 16**. Because this measure is one of the required performance funding measures, we must collect baseline data this year.

4. NEIT Survey: This survey has been implemented. Data will be gathered as part of the NEIT reporting at the end of the year and will be published in the 2001 Critical Success Factors Report.
5. Employer Survey: Originally we had hoped to conduct this survey at the state level using information from the Common Follow-up System. We have since learned that the legislation that created the Common Follow-up System prohibits the use of these data to contact employers. Colleges will be responsible for conducting the Employer Survey beginning in 2000-2001. We are developing a process that colleges should follow and it will be discussed at CCPRO.

Some colleges have conducted a noncompleter survey for this year; this should not be viewed as a "wasted" effort. Hopefully the data you gathered are being used for program improvement. In addition, having collected the data should help you in improving your survey process for next year.

There still seems to be confusion on which cohort of students to survey. Each year, you should collect data on the previous academic year's students. Thus, for the 2000-2001 academic year, you will need to survey the 1999-2000 completers and the noncompleters as defined by students who were enrolled in Fall 1999, did not complete a program and did not return in Fall 2000. This survey is for curriculum students only and excludes students coded as "Transition."

The survey data on completers, noncompleters, and employers will be collected from the colleges by the System Office during the first week of February. This data collection and the specific due date will appear on the Annual Reporting Plan.

A draft set of survey questions has been developed for the completer, non-completer, and employer surveys. These will be distributed at the CCPRO roundtable session in April for discussion and then mailed to the colleges for further review. All survey questions will be finalized by May 15. Hopefully this will make them available in time for those of you who conduct completer surveys at graduation. If this timeframe does not allow enough time, please let me know and we will try to have the completer survey finalized at an earlier date.

As a final note, we are requesting funds from the General Assembly to conduct the noncompleter survey at the state level. In the event this funding does not become available, you should be prepared to conduct the noncompleter survey in the Fall. As more information is made available, we will let you know.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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(Paper Mail)