

Recommendation 3

**Acquire library materials and database at a level sufficient to support student learning.
(Standard II.C.1)**

According to the self-study, students had access to 28,120 hard copy books in the library as of 2009. Nine online full-text periodical reference databases and subscriptions to an additional 68 print periodical titles are also available for student research. Due to the limitations of the current library facility, the size of the print collection has remained at the minimum range of acceptability for supporting student learning at the community college level. The addition of an eBooks collection of 27,772 titles was a laudable tactic to address the space problem. It has doubled the resources available to students without necessitating any increase in facilities.

In order to meet the recommendation, the college increased the book budget from \$8,900 in 2004-2005 to \$20,000 in 2006-2007. Although the midterm report refers to plans to permanently increase this budget an additional \$20,000 each year until a sufficient collection is established, the book budget has remained static at \$20,000. This limited budget will make it extremely difficult for the college to acquire a sufficient collection in the future.

Currently, the existing library facility has impacted the college's ability to fully meet this recommendation. The team understands that the new library facility will help to alleviate this problem. The team encourages the college to recognize that in addition to furniture, fixtures, and equipment (FF&E), it will also require a substantial commitment of ongoing funds dedicated to collection development in both the circulating and reference book collections. Progress on this should be reported in the college's midterm report. The recommendation has been partially met.

Recommendation 4

The College uses its strategic plan to drive the development and full integration of the educational master plan with the technology, facilities, and human resources plans and related institutional processes. The human resources plan should be developed with special attention to providing sufficient administrative and staff members for projected institutional growth. (Standard III.A.6, III.B.1, III.B.2, III.B.2.b, III.C.2, III.D.1.a, III.D.1.b)

It is unclear how the strategic plan, master plan, and technology, facilities, and human resources plans are all tied together and integrated—especially in relation to the program review process. Also, the hiring freezes tied to the “golden handshake” extend the staffing problems since key positions remain empty, with no plans to address the situation. Administrative turnover is a major concern as well as the lack of plans for addressing staff attrition and for new staffing needs to support new facilities.

The college has not met this recommendation.