

Online Learning Plan Summary

Saint Paul College was awarded Minnesota Online accreditation confirmation in August, 2006 after an on-site evaluation. The following strategies summarize the College's Online Learning Strategic Plan.

Expand online courses and programs:

- Identify customers of potential programs by exploring the market for online programs, including the competition.
- Determine demand for these courses from student perspective, employer perspective and market perspective.
- Examine how we can use our current unique programs to further expand courses and training to increase completion rates.
- Identify new programs and courses that will be offered online, and current courses that could benefit from alternate delivery methods.

Convenient

Develop a systematic approach to utilize data for decision-making and continuous improvement:

- Develop and implement an online tool that allows students to provide periodic feedback on courses, their delivery and services provided (e.g., bookstore, IT, library, registration, tutoring, FA, advising, counseling).
- Develop and implement tools for measuring faculty satisfaction with the processes associated with the development and implementation of online course and programs.
- Formalize and implement a course design checklist for online courses (e.g., caters to different learning styles, learning assessment built in, faculty office hours listed).

Systematically apply assessment of student learning to the online environment:

- Identify methods used to assess students' learning in online courses.
- Document best practices (e.g., formative assessment/1 minute responses, self-assessment, portfolios).
- Incorporate WIDS Assessment Matrices into student learning.
- Develop tools and processes to ensure direct and indirect measures of student learning are used.

Accessible

Provide and encourage professional development opportunities for teaching, learning, and services for the online environment:

- Initiate a college-wide professional development action plan that identifies and tackles high priority topics.
- Develop and implement an online program for new faculty to orient them to the college, and an online training program for faculty wishing to teach online.
- Develop and post a one-stop resource page with policies, procedures, professional development opportunities and resources associated with teaching online courses, as well as a faculty chat room.

Innovative

A learning college places learning first, and provides educational experiences for learners anywhere, anyplace, anytime.

O'Banion. A Learning Collge for the 21st Century. 1997

- ↳ Increase accessibility for students, faculty and community members to online systems and resources:
 - Determine faculty technology needs as they apply to the wireless network, hardware and software; prioritize upgrades to ensure high-end users have appropriate technology.
 - Set up a student life e-bulletin board or Web area that includes announcements, career information, and college activity information, contributed to by students, faculty, and community members.
 - Develop a Web community that facilitates collaboration among all stakeholders (could use an application such as Shareware).
- ↳ Develop and communicate the College's image regarding online offerings through appropriate media:
 - Explore additional avenues for marketing, including online ads, page buys, hit buys, etc.
 - Identify target markets, demographics, etc. and disseminate online course and program initiatives to appropriate markets.
- ↳ Enhance teaching and learning through the use of relevant innovative technology:
 - Expand the technology tools used to deliver Web enhanced, Web supplemented, and online courses.
 - Establish standards for the technologies being implemented.
 - Develop implementation plans for emerging technologies and associated budgets.
- ↳ Develop or evaluate policies and procedures associated with online teaching and learning to ensure relevance:
 - Review policies at other colleges as well as apply current College policy development and review procedures.
 - Identify needed policies with respect to online teaching and learning (e.g., intellectual property, copyright, authentication, and plagiarism).
 - Utilize staff input as well as committee process to review recommendations, make decisions and communicate policies/procedures to faculty and staff.
- ↳ Develop systemic processes to help ensure that students who choose to participate in online learning have the skills and resources needed to succeed:
 - Establish levels of technological literacy and competencies needed to succeed in online courses and eservices.
 - Establish tutorials, training and/or drop-in sessions, and a help desk for online learners.
- ↳ Analyze administrative, resource and staffing levels needed to grow/improve online learning and teaching:
 - Determine the leadership and staffing needed to reach the institutional targets to increase the number of online students.
 - Investigate the establishment of an income generating cost center with appropriate levels of staffing for online learning.



Saint Paul College

A Community & Technical College

235 Marshall Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55102

www.saintpaul.edu

This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling 1.800.227.6029, 651.846.1547(V) / 651.846.1548(TTY) or email DisabilityServices@saintpaul.edu.

Saint Paul College is an Equal Opportunity employer and educator and a member of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system.

07/07