## Response to March 2, 2022 Peer Panel Evaluation Report

Submitted to the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, March 12, 2022



With a goal of increasing board efficiency, the board of trustees recently adopted the interim president's recommendation to implement a consent agenda which expedites approval of routine, non-controversial agenda items. At their February 23, 2022 meeting, the board approved a consent agenda of five items.

The peer evaluation panel's report included information about the college reducing full-time positions. The college has this as a goal with an active plan in place to reduce staff

unfettered, latitude, consistent with the faculty responsibility to foster an opportunity for all members of the class to dialogue with one another.

At the time, the VPI determined that the faculty teaching the course upheld

anticipated the board will select a president to begin in the upcoming summer or fall semester. Dr. Provart hosted forums to seek input and engagement from the college community and the community at large to hear the needs of NIC and the qualities sought in the next president. (February 23, 2022 NICNow.) Dr. Provart is finalizing the presidential profile and will begin recruiting for the position by March 15. She plans to schedule the first committee meeting prior to the end of March. (See email from Dr. Provart)

In November 2021, NIC contracted with Pauly Group, Inc., (See documents: Pauly Group Contracts), to conduct searches for three dean positions, Dean of Enrollment Services, Dean of Instruction - General Studies and Dean of Instruction - Workforce Education. A committee of individuals from across the college was established for each search to review application materials, select candidates for and conduct first- and second-round interviews, under the guidance of Dr. Provart. Finalists were selected for all three positions and are scheduled throughout the month of March for in-person interviews. The college is currently in the process of welcoming finalists to campus for these interviews, following the traditional format at NIC that includes an interview with the search committee, an open forum to which the college is invited, and meetings with other key stakeholders. An opportunity to provide written feedback on each finalist is provided to all who participate in the forum or who had other interactions with the candidates during their visits.

## Physical, Technological, and Health Infrastructure (2.I.1 and ER 15)

The peer evaluation panel's report gives the impression that NIC took little or no action to prevent the spread of COVID-19 after the board voted to lift the mask mandate in August 2021. This is not accurate. The following information is presented to demonstrate that NIC currently meets, and has continually met, Standards 2.I.1 and ER 15.

NIC has maintained and expanded efforts to create a safe and healthy learning and working environment throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. These efforts continue through today and demonstrate that the college continues to prioritize the well-being of employees and students.

Early in the pandemic, NIC appointed a COVID Resp cly m W\*ing i(e)12(a)-10(t)5(i)5(7(t)5(m o.10(nd11 Tf1 0 0 1 72.02)