1. In meetings with the Chancellor, it was determined that WCC’s Strategic Plan’s goals would be consistent with the current System-wide Strategic Plan goals. Further, while the System is now in process of re-doing its Strategic Plan, the College will continue its Strategic Plan development using the current System framework. The College will update its Strategic Plan on an annual basis, but in the mean time wants to continue the momentum of the current planning effort using current System-wide goals.

2. A Revised Strategic Plan was drafted as a result of a day of advance planning (October 9) and a day-long retreat October 10) of 35 faculty and staff representing the Strategic Planning Committee, the Institutional Effectiveness Committee, and many others. Five “Goal” groups created drafts of related objectives, action strategies, outcomes measures, and timelines. A timeline was created, during the third day of planning, to complete the Strategic Plan by April 2008.

3. The Strategic Plan will include strategic initiatives, not operational activities generated by department resource needs as was the case in the past (the purpose of which had been to link planning to resource allocation). There was extensive discussion and concentration about the definition of a College Strategic Plan, contrasted with other types of plans. The planning consultant/ writer defined strategic objectives and priorities as those activities that position an entity to measurably excel within a relative context of environmental, internal and external, conditions and challenges; a Strategic Plan does not typically included detailed operational needs and activities. The planning participants are striving toward creating a Strategic Plan with objectives towards which progress can be measured to demonstrate institutional effectiveness.

4. Consequently, there was discussion regarding procedures and process to address routine operational, i.e. routine maintenance, issues, if those topics were not to be addressed within a Strategic Plan context. For the most part, it was determined through discussion that operational needs,
activities, and issues are adequately addressed within existing administrative procedures.

5. During the third, final day of discussion (October 11), it was proposed that the Strategic Planning Committee role be revised to include the review of the final College budget to ensure alignment with College plans (versus the previous procedure of that Committee recommending budget priorities to the Budget Committee). Additionally, the Strategic Planning Committee will oversee progress towards the College Strategic Plan, modifying the Plan as needed depending upon external and internal conditions and assessments. College policies will need to be revised accordingly.

6. A proposed new WCC Educational Master Plan framework will include all College and Department Plans and will be overseen by the Strategic Planning Committee. The College Strategic Plan will be one plan among the Colleges plans, such as the Technology Plan and the Facilities Master Plan. This Educational Master Plan document would also need to include procedural statements regarding timelines and responsibilities for each plan.

7. A culture of evidence is evident at WCC. An exemplary “Culture of Evidence” panel presentation and discussion was provided at the College Planning Retreat on October 10. Achieving the Dream (AtD) program data was previewed and is destined to impact College priorities and operations. A framework for SLO assessment is well underway under the guidance of the Institutional Effectiveness Committee. It was proposed that the Strategic Plan process and General Education SLO assessment, which are both connected to the College Mission Statement, are adequate for measures of institutional effectiveness assessment. Faculty and staff appear to be engaged in assessment, in an overall sense, and everyone agrees that change management and assessment issues require continuing professional development and attention.