

Diane Nyhammer, Ph.D.

Education

Ph.D., Higher Education, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, Loyola University, Chicago, IL, December 2006
St. Catharine's College, Cambridge University, England, Summer 1991
M.A. in English, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, August 1990
B.A. in English, Barat College, Lake Forest, IL, August 1984
Macalester College, St. Paul, MN, 1981- 1983

Professional Experience

Vice President of Learning, Blackhawk Technical College, Janesville, WI, June 2013 – Present

Blackhawk Technical College (BTC) is a public institution awarding Associate of Applied Science degrees, certificates, and diplomas with five campus locations in Janesville (2), Monroe, Beloit, and Milton, WI. The College's 2014-2015 credit headcount was 5,520, with a full-time equivalent (FTE) of 1,646. Total enrollment—including GED, pre-college, and non-credit offerings—was 8,600.

Reporting to the President as the Vice President of Learning, I provide leadership to the instructional deans and a staff of approximately 200 full and part-time employees. My responsibilities include oversight of credit and continuing education programming, business and industry training, institutional effectiveness, and a budget of approximately \$20.6 M.

Direct reports include: 6 instructional deans, 2 professional staff, and the Director of Institutional Effectiveness.

Institutional Involvement:

- Participating in and leading various shared governance councils;
- Participating in legislative visits at the State Capital and on campus;
- Preparing presentations to the District Board and developing bi-annual updates of the Strategic Plan;
- Representing the College through membership on the Janesville Rotary, Forward Janesville, and other community groups;
- Assisting in oversight and development of four federal grants under the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training program;
- Serving on the Wisconsin Technical College System Instructional Services subcommittee of the Presidents' Association.

Selected Accomplishments:

- Coordinated accreditation requirements for approval of a new degree site;
- Collaboratively developed and implemented a comprehensive Academic Plan that supports the College's Strategic Priorities, the Wisconsin Technical College System goals, and the state's Performance-Based Funding criteria;
- Served as reviewer and editor of the College's 2013 *Systems Portfolio*, an accreditation report for the Higher Learning Commission;
- Led the expansion, revision, or suspension of academic programs based on graduate outcomes and industry needs;

- With the Vice President of Finance, revised the budgeting process to better align instructional payroll budgets with planned course offerings;
- Led the development of a one-year credit schedule to support student retention;
- Served as co-chair of a statewide team convened to develop the Universal Course Transfer Agreement policies and procedures.

Provost / Chief Academic Officer, Rock Valley College, Rockford, IL, July 2008 – June 2013

Rock Valley College (RVC) is a public comprehensive community college awarding Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, and Associate of Applied Science degrees and certificates with five locations in Rockford, IL. The College's 2014-2015 credit headcount was 8,600 with a full-time equivalent (FTE) of 6,028. Non-credit enrollment averages 25,000.

Reporting to the President and serving as the President's designee in his absence, as Provost I was responsible for Academic Affairs, Student Development, Information Technology, Institutional Research, Outreach and Planning, Human Resources, Athletics, and a budget of approximately \$32.4 M.

Direct reports included: 3 Associate Vice Presidents, 4 additional administrators (Dean of Academic Development and Instructional Support, the Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness, the Chief Information Officer, and the Director of Human Resources), 1 professional staff (Curriculum Coordinator), and 1 support staff. I provided leadership to 7 academic deans and approximately 150 full-time faculty.

Institutional Involvement:

- Prepared presentations for President's Council and Board of Trustees;
- Served as convener of the Board of Trustees' Teaching and Learning Committee;
- Worked to strengthen or establish partnerships with the Rockford Area Economic Development Council, a local business incubator, and the City of Rockford;
- Participated in developing the College's Strategic Focus Areas, Strategic Enrollment Management Plan, Information Technology Plan, a strategic plan for Athletics, and Facilities Master Plan;
- Participated in faculty contract negotiations;
- Based on results from an Enrollment Management Plan, participated in academic and facilities planning including a new Math and Science building and downtown center.

Selected Accomplishments:

- Secured a donation to the College Foundation to establish the annual David H. Caskey Memorial Lecture for the Advancement of the Social Sciences;
- Oversaw implementation of *Running Start*, a dual credit partnership with area high schools;
- Wrote the College's Monitoring Report required by the Higher Learning Commission on assessment of student learning, resulting in no further monitoring;
- Wrote the application and facilitated the accreditation peer review evaluation visit leading to approval to offer online degrees;
- Developed a comprehensive *Academic and Student Development Policy and Procedure Manual*;
- Initiated collaborations with area school districts for expansion and improvement of dual credit offerings and curriculum alignment efforts.

Executive Dean of Humanities, Distance Education, and Professional Development, McHenry County College, Crystal Lake, IL, September 2006 – June 2008

McHenry County College is a public comprehensive community college awarding Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, and Associate of Applied Science degrees, located in Crystal Lake, IL, with several satellite locations. The College's student headcount is 6,551 with a full-time equivalent (FTE) of 3,880. Non-credit enrollment is approximately 8,000.

Reporting to the Vice President of Academic Affairs, I was responsible for leadership, supervision, and evaluation of faculty and staff in the Humanities division, which included nine academic areas, the Distance Learning operations, and a budget of approximately 2.8 M.

Direct reports included approximately 35 full-time faculty, 2 professional staff in Distance Education, 3 clerical staff, and approximately 60-70 adjunct faculty.

Institutional Involvement:

- Served on the Vice President's Academic Council, the College's Assessment Committee, and accreditation committees;
- Provided supervision for newly-created Distance Education Faculty Liaison;
- Formalized processes for Learning Communities (interdisciplinary) courses.

Selected Accomplishments:

- Collaborated to reach consensus on recommendations for new and replacement faculty positions, academic calendars, and schedules;
- With a faculty committee, revised the College's general education outcomes;
- Coordinated new distance learning opportunities and developed policies.

Dean of Arts and Sciences, Colorado Mountain College, Glenwood Springs, CO, March 2005 – January 2006

Colorado Mountain College is a public bachelor's and associate degree-granting institution with 11 locations in Western Colorado. The College's credit headcount is approximately 11,500 with full-time equivalent (FTE) of 3,082. Non-credit enrollment is 10,275. The College began offering bachelor's degrees in 2012.

Reporting to the Chief Learning Officer, I was responsible for leadership, supervision, and evaluation of the liberal arts and sciences faculty and the developmental education staff.

Direct reports included 16 Discipline Coordinators, 1 professional staff, 5 Developmental Education Services staff, and 1 clerical staff. Leadership provided to approximately 70 full-time faculty and approximately 150 part-time faculty.

Institutional Involvement:

- Worked with faculty to ensure consistency of curriculum and instruction at all sites;
- Worked with the Faculty Senate in planning faculty development activities;
- Participated in various committees including: Council for Instruction, Curriculum Advisory Committee, Administrative Leadership Team, Faculty Allocation Committee, Federal and State Policy Committee;
- Participated in college-wide initiatives such as strategic planning and accreditation.

Selected Accomplishments:

- Coordinated the revision of policies and procedures for study abroad programs;
- Reviewed and revised portions of the *Curriculum and Instruction Manual*.

Assistant Director for Accreditation Services, Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association, Chicago, IL, July 2003 – March 2005

The Higher Learning Commission is one of six regional accrediting bodies in the United States, providing member services for post-secondary institutions across 19 states.

Reporting to the Executive Director, I provided Commission liaison services to over 160 member, candidate, and applying organizations from all sectors of higher education.

Commission Involvement:

- Coordinated consultant-evaluator / peer review teams for accreditation visits;
- Visited member institutions to assist in preparation for accreditation reviews;
- Participated in peer review training and planning the Annual Conference which draws approximately 3,000 attendees annually.

Selected Accomplishments:

- Participated in drafting the Higher Learning Commission's "Guidance on Determining Qualified Faculty";
- Participated in the "Assessment Think Tank" which led to the development of the Assessment Academy;
- Drafted a proposal for a Taskforce on the Professional Doctorate submitted to the Higher Learning Commission's Board.

Assistant Director for Academic Affairs, Illinois Board of Higher Education, Springfield, IL, May 2002 – July 2003

The Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) is responsible for coordinating the state's system of higher education including 9 public universities on 12 campuses, 48 community colleges, and over 100 non-profit and for-profit colleges and universities.

Reporting to the Deputy Director for Academic Affairs, I was involved in: the Statewide Results Report, budget recommendations, assessment of student learning workshops, the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI), program review and program approval, and P-20 initiatives.

Selected Accomplishments:

- Contributed to a statewide Faculty Diversity Study, including: report-writing, meetings, and hearings related to the study, and development of policy priorities;
- Participated in developing the Associate of Arts in Teaching degree and partnership activities for the federally-funded State Teacher Quality Enhancement Grant;
- Analyzed information and prepared reports to the Illinois Board of Higher Education on progress in implementing the Board's policies

Faculty and Administrative positions, McHenry County College, Crystal Lake, IL, 1990-2002

Assistant to the President, July 2001 – September 2002

Reporting to the President, I was responsible for: developing speeches, writing reports for state and federal agencies; revising policy and procedure manuals, and other internal communications.

Selected Accomplishment:

- Co-Chaired the Higher Learning Commission self-study for continued accreditation, January 2002 – March 2002.

Affirmative Action Coordinator and Assistant to the Vice President for Academic Affairs, August 2000 – July 2001; Administrative Intern in Academic Affairs, August 1999 – May 2000

Reporting to the Vice President for Academic Affairs, I was responsible for: convening an Affirmative Action Committee; making recommendations for revised search and screen procedures; writing Affirmative Action annual reports; and participating in new faculty projects (Learning Communities, Technology-Enhanced Instruction, Multicultural Education).

Selected Accomplishments:

- Wrote the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) Accountability Report for FY 2000;
- Developed an ICCB grant application for MCC's Plastics Program (awarded Oct. 1999) and served as grant administrator for two ICCB grants;
- Revised the College's affirmative action policy.

English Department Chair, January 1999 – August 1999; Director of Freshman Writing Program, 1996 – 1999

Reporting to the Executive Dean of Humanities, I was responsible for interviewing and mentoring adjunct faculty, scheduling classes, preparing the annual department budget, and resolving student complaints.

Full-Time Faculty, Instructor of English, June 1990 – 2001

Reporting to the Executive Dean of Humanities, I taught writing and literature courses and served on various college-wide committees.

Board and Community Involvement

- Illinois Association for Cultural Diversity (formerly Illinois Staff and Curriculum Developers' Association), 1995-2002; 2008-Present
- Janesville Noon Rotary, 2013-2014
- Association for the Assessment of Learning in Higher Education (AALHE) based at the University of Kentucky, Board member, 2010-2013
- Illinois Humanities Council, Board member, 2010-2013
- Order of St. Francis (OSF) St. Anthony Hospital (Rockford, IL), Advisory Board member, 2009-2013
- Mid-America Horse Show Association, Board member, 2006-2011
- Burpee Museum of Natural History, Board member, 2008-2011

Professional Development

- Higher Learning Commission: Peer Reviewer, 2006-Present; Assessment Academy Mentor (2006-Present); and Persistence and Completion Academy Mentor (2014-present)
- Published “Increasing Faculty Diversity at Community Colleges,” *The Journal*, Illinois Committee on Black Concerns in Higher Education, 2003
- President of Illinois Staff and Curriculum Developers’ Association (ISCDA), 1997-1998; Co-facilitated planning of ISCDA’s Dealing with Difference Institute, 1995 – 2004
- Assistant Editor of *To Improve the Academy*, a staff development journal, 1993

Workshops and Presentations

- Keynote Speaker, National Learning Communities Conference, Kansas City, MO, 2015
- Assessment of Student Development Learning Outcomes, Waubonsee Community College, Sugar Grove, IL, 2015
- Proposed Model for Leading Assessment, Association for the Assessment of Learning in Higher Education (AALHE) Conference, Lexington, KY, June 2015
- Panelist for Janesville Wisconsin Women's Fund Education Forum, 2015
- Higher Learning Commission Annual Conference—General Session Presentation (co-presented with university colleagues), 2014; Peer Review Corps Program presentations (4) and General Program presentation, 2012
- Assessment Keynote at Summer Symposium on Student Learning, Metropolitan Community College, Kansas City, MO, 2011
- Student Learning and College Readiness—Common Core State Standards, AALHE Conference, Lexington KY, 2011
- Assessment of Student Learning Presentation and Workshop, Southeastern Community College, West Burlington, IA, 2010
- Assessment Workshop, Mesa State College, Grand Junction, CO, 2007
- Academic Quality Improvement Program Strategy Forum facilitator, 2005, 2006
- Mentor/Facilitator for Higher Learning Commission Assessment of Student Learning Workshops, including presentations on General Education and Institutional Effectiveness, 2005, 2006, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2014, 2015, 2016
- “Faculty Searches at Community Colleges,” Illinois Committee on Black Concerns in Higher Education Annual Conference, Illinois State University, 2002
- “ ‘We Are Each Other’s Harvest’: Implementing an Affirmative Action Policy at a Predominantly White Community College,” Illinois Council of Community College Administrators, 2001
- “Shared Governance,” Illinois Community College Trustees Association, 2000
- “Transforming College English: Making It Multicultural,” Expanding Cultural Diversity Conference, Illinois State University, 1999
- Dealing with Difference Institute, WIU, 1994, 1995, 1997, 1998
- “Diversity Issues in Composition Curricula,” Two Year College Composition Association, 1996
- “Expanding the American Literary Canon,” Palatine area high schools, 1994
- “Expanded Literary Canon,” Parkland College Multicultural Conference, 1993