

SFL

SOAR FORUM

THEME: Curriculum Innovation

Please talk with participants at the table, or reflect personally, and record your thoughts, ideas, and vision about an opportunity that supports our strengths at NECC around this theme. Please feel free to use multiple sheets.

<p><b>STRENGTHS</b></p> <p>What is NECC doing really well presently to achieve this goal?          What areas of the college are our greatest assets in creating and meeting this theme's goals?</p> <p>Strengths Notes: <i>New institutional commitment to this work w/ Academic Innovations dept.</i>  <i>COOL</i>  <i>experienced &amp; varied faculty</i>  <i>supportive admin</i> ↓</p>
<p><b>OPPORTUNITIES</b></p> <p>What are the best opportunities for NECC to achieve your vision of this theme?          How could we partner internally and externally to achieve this?</p> <p>Opportunity Notes:  <i>Collaborations &amp; campus partnerships</i>  <i>Developing more interdisciplinary models to support a wider range of learners</i></p>
<p><b>ASPIRATIONS</b></p> <p>To what do we aspire? Please describe your vision of a preferred future for NECC with this theme successfully implemented</p> <p>Aspiration Notes:  <i>Globally aware, internationally engaged.</i>  <i>NECC is embedded in community in new ways, both pedagogically &amp; practically</i></p>
<p><b>RESULTS</b></p> <p>What will we measure to determine if we have met your vision and implemented opportunities?          What will the change be that we are known for?</p> <p>Results Notes:  <i>Is NECC developing programs for new models of learning for our students?</i>  <i>Do these new models connect &amp; engage students across cultures &amp; communities?</i></p>

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<p><b>OPPORTUNITIES</b></p> <p>What are the best opportunities for NECC to achieve your vision of this theme?          How could we partner internally and externally to achieve this?</p> <p>Opportunity Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Need to build support for students in hybrid &amp; online (at first time our students aren't as computer savvy as we think they are.)</li> <li>* Getting field placements + other opportunities to first year students esp to those in DEVED who feel they're wasting their time @ colleges</li> <li>* ACTUALLY INNOVATE THE CURRICULUM! Just putting PPTs online doesn't actually</li> </ul>
<p><b>ASPIRATIONS</b></p> <p>To what do we aspire? Please describe your vision of a preferred future for NECC with this theme successfully implemented</p> <p>Aspiration Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Students who are prepared to interact with technology <u>and</u> with other people in a changing world - not just in the world now</li> <li>→ Guided pathways that also allow for interdisciplinary learning - it's the only way students can truly develop critical thinking skills.</li> </ul>
<p><b>RESULTS</b></p> <p>What will we measure to determine if we have met your vision and implemented opportunities?          What will the change be that we are known for?</p> <p>Results Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Better retention + completion of degree programs by all student populations</li> <li>* Fewer students complaining about being confused or feeling that their coursework isn't helping them</li> <li>* 4yr colleges that look @ NECC as a model</li> </ul>

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<p><b>STRENGTHS</b></p> <p>What is NECC doing really well presently to achieve this goal? What areas of the college are our greatest assets in creating and meeting this theme's goals?</p> <p>Strengths Notes: Distance Education, Hybrid Courses iHealth Lots of experimentation at individual course, instructor level</p>
<p><b>OPPORTUNITIES</b></p> <p>What are the best opportunities for NECC to achieve your vision of this theme? How could we partner internally and externally to achieve this?</p> <p>Opportunity Notes: More flexible options aimed at adults + intermittent students, like work &amp; for prior learning, Competency Based Education, and more clearly structured curriculum pathways</p>
<p><b>ASPIRATIONS</b></p> <p>To what do we aspire? Please describe your vision of a preferred future for NECC with this theme successfully implemented</p> <p>Aspiration Notes: Meeting the needs of adult students who have been going to other providers. Offering more options for education to do that types of courses.</p>
<p><b>RESULTS</b></p> <p>What will we measure to determine if we have met your vision and implemented opportunities? What will the change be that we are known for?</p> <p>Results Notes: # of adult students enrolled. Assessment of new types of learning in innovative curriculum vs. learning in traditional courses.</p>

SFH

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<p><b>STRENGTHS</b></p> <p>What is NECC doing really well presently to achieve this goal?          What areas of the college are our greatest assets in creating and meeting this theme's goals?</p> <p>Strengths Notes:  <i>learning communities - many cross-disciplined faculty -</i></p>
<p><b>OPPORTUNITIES</b></p> <p>What are the best opportunities for NECC to achieve your vision of this theme?          How could we partner internally and externally to achieve this?</p> <p>Opportunity Notes:  <i>I'd like a more open, active "cross-pollination" of instruction - for example - someone from Sociology comes to my class to talk about diversity - as a trade off - I go to their classroom and talk about Drupal alcohol - 1-2 x's a year</i></p>
<p><b>ASPIRATIONS</b></p> <p>To what do we aspire? Please describe your vision of a preferred future for NECC with this theme successfully implemented</p> <p>Aspiration Notes:  <i>More sharing of ideas - more cross disciplinary ideas, forums, "retreats"</i></p>
<p><b>RESULTS</b></p> <p>What will we measure to determine if we have met your vision and implemented opportunities?          What will the change be that we are known for?</p> <p>Results Notes:  <i>More competency in cross-pollinated areas a.e. b some pre post feedback - advancing of ideas to add onto the program.</i></p>

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<b>STRENGTHS</b>	
What is NECC doing really well presently to achieve this goal?	Partnerships with 4 yr - private!
What areas of the college are our greatest assets in creating and meeting this theme's goals?	2 public colleges!
Strengths Notes:	Strength lies in our faculty - small classes programs in partnership with industry. Job science example - - need more! Warm community feel due in part to our President's involvement in the community.
<b>OPPORTUNITIES</b>	
What are the best opportunities for NECC to achieve your vision of this theme?	
How could we partner internally and externally to achieve this?	
Opportunity Notes:	research needed along with a business plan - increase resources - -
<b>ASPIRATIONS</b>	
To what do we aspire? Please describe your vision of a preferred future for NECC with this theme successfully implemented	
Aspiration Notes:	few computer courses for older learner relevant programs with job opportunities important customer service thru workshops - - focus more on the needs of the older students
<b>RESULTS</b>	
What will we measure to determine if we have met your vision and implemented opportunities?	
What will the change be that we are known for?	
Results Notes:	increase in enrollments and student success.

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<p><b>STRENGTHS</b></p> <p>What is NECC doing really well presently to achieve this goal? What areas of the college are our greatest assets in creating and meeting this theme's goals?</p> <p>Strengths Notes: As an institution, we are open to new ideas to better help our students succeed. We have committees established to plan for the future and set short &amp; long term goals. We are good at identifying what works and those that don't and eliminate waste</p>
<p><b>OPPORTUNITIES</b></p> <p>What are the best opportunities for NECC to achieve your vision of this theme? How could we partner internally and externally to achieve this?</p> <p>Opportunity Notes: We should support each other to implement new ways of <del>finding ways</del> reaching out to every student and making education more accessible by removing all barriers. From financial to technical and even physical constraints.</p>
<p><b>ASPIRATIONS</b></p> <p>To what do we aspire? Please describe your vision of a preferred future for NECC with this theme successfully implemented</p> <p>Aspiration Notes: Being a community college, our students have very different background from all walks of life. We should make education as open and accessible so ALL students are <sup>on an</sup> equal playing field.</p>
<p><b>RESULTS</b></p> <p>What will we measure to determine if we have met your vision and implemented opportunities? What will the change be that we are known for?</p> <p>Results Notes: <del>Another</del> Completion rate is one number we can use to measure success. This is a good starting point but we should further analyze the numbers and identify areas we excel in and further support these areas to help students graduate. Establish an exit interview process for all graduates so we can identify our strengths &amp; weaknesses from the student's point of view.</p>

JFH

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<p><b>STRENGTHS</b></p> <p>What is NECC doing really well presently to achieve this goal?          What areas of the college are our greatest assets in creating and meeting this theme's goals?</p> <p>Strengths Notes:</p> <p>our transfer degree majors that are matching four year school needs. Business Transfer degree is a popular option for students.</p>
<p><b>OPPORTUNITIES</b></p> <p>What are the best opportunities for NECC to achieve your vision of this theme?          How could we partner internally and externally to achieve this?</p> <p>Opportunity Notes:</p> <p>Keeping communication doors open between more four year schools gives our students more options &amp; opportunities.</p>
<p><b>ASPIRATIONS</b></p> <p>To what do we aspire? Please describe your vision of a preferred future for NECC with this theme successfully implemented</p> <p>Aspiration Notes:</p> <p>We need to launch our first 100% on-line degree to open up the doors to a market beyond the Merrimack Valley.</p>
<p><b>RESULTS</b></p> <p>What will we measure to determine if we have met your vision and implemented opportunities?          What will the change be that we are known for?</p> <p>Results Notes:</p> <p>We can measure the graduates of the 100% on-line degrees as well as follow them through out their degree as check points to make sure they are successful.</p>

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Culture of Innovation

THEME: CURRICULAR INNOVATION

Please talk with participants at the table, or reflect personally, and record your thoughts, ideas, and vision about an opportunity that supports our strengths at NECC around this theme. Please feel free to use multiple sheets.

<p><b>STRENGTHS</b></p> <p>What is NECC doing really well presently to achieve this goal?          What areas of the college are our greatest assets in creating and meeting this theme's goals?</p> <p>Strengths Notes:</p> <p>We have many, many faculty who like to try new things and improve their teaching &amp; students' learning.</p>
<p><b>OPPORTUNITIES</b></p> <p>What are the best opportunities for NECC to achieve your vision of this theme?          How could we partner internally and externally to achieve this?</p> <p>Opportunity Notes:</p> <p>ACADEMIC INNOVATIONS MINI-GRANTS          leverage innovative faculty who have lots of ideas + need time + space to try them out</p>
<p><b>ASPIRATIONS</b></p> <p>To what do we aspire? Please describe your vision of a preferred future for NECC with this theme successfully implemented</p> <p>Aspiration Notes:</p> <p>NECC nurtures an environment that continually introduces new ideas, new ways of thinking and translates them into actions to solve specific teaching and learning problems and/or seize new opportunities.</p>
<p><b>RESULTS</b></p> <p>What will we measure to determine if we have met your vision and implemented opportunities?          What will the change be that we are known for?</p> <p>Results Notes:</p> <p>Faculty takes <sup>informed</sup> risks &amp; try new things &amp; + staff          Discover new ways to teach &amp; for students to learn</p>

See EDUCAUSE report on Building a Culture of Innovation in Higher Ed: Design & Practices for Leaders (April 2015)



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**STRENGTHS**

What is NECC doing really well presently to achieve this goal?

What areas of the college are our greatest assets in creating and meeting this theme's goals?

Strengths Notes:

very good job supporting students by offering multiple academic support opportunities

**OPPORTUNITIES**

What are the best opportunities for NECC to achieve your vision of this theme?

How could we partner internally and externally to achieve this?

Opportunity Notes:

Writing Lab, Tutoring Services, Library services can cooperate and develop more programs and workshops together to target specific student groups.

**ASPIRATIONS**

To what do we aspire? Please describe your vision of a preferred future for NECC with this theme successfully implemented

Aspiration Notes:

- Encourage more creative programs, create a makerspace lab for students to have hands-on experiences.
- Focus on not only curriculum but soft skill development for all students. Work without walls.

**RESULTS**

What will we measure to determine if we have met your vision and implemented opportunities?

What will the change be that we are known for?

Results Notes:

- See the number of students that participate in creative programs.

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<p>Strengths Notes:</p> <p>Lab Sciences program is phenomenal in preparing students for a career or transferring to a 4-year program. <del>with</del> mix of lab work, classroom, and residency</p> <p><del>Kim Burns competency based program</del></p>
<p><b>OPPORTUNITIES</b></p> <p>What are the best opportunities for NECC to achieve your vision of this theme?          How could we partner internally and externally to achieve this?</p>
<p>Opportunity Notes:</p> <p><del>Grants for new programs</del> Model new curriculum development after the grant process → back up with research, develop results</p> <p>Emphasize soft skills / <del>interactive skills</del> emotional intelligence</p> <p>Have a process in place for curriculum development</p>
<p><b>ASPIRATIONS</b></p> <p>To what do we aspire? Please describe your vision of a preferred future for NECC with this theme successfully implemented</p>
<p>Aspiration Notes:</p> <p><del>Research based</del> <del>Any new</del> Our programs run like well-oiled machines, preparing students for either a better job in the region or to transfer on to a four-year program. They leave NECC sometimes <u>better</u> prepared than if they'd</p>
<p><b>RESULTS</b></p> <p>just finished 2 years at a 4-year institution</p> <p>What will we measure to determine if we have met your vision and implemented opportunities?          What will the change be that we are known for?</p>
<p>Results Notes:</p> <p><del>Measure</del> Follow-up with graduates → track new jobs, salary increases, acceptance rates to 4-year institutions, would need to keep a finger on the pulse of Merrimack Valley as well as greater industry/employment trends</p>

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<p>Strengths Notes: competency-based stuff lab science - labs, classroom, internships</p>
<p><b>OPPORTUNITIES</b> What are the best opportunities for NECC to achieve your vision of this theme? How could we partner internally and externally to achieve this?</p>
<p>Opportunity Notes: more competency-based approaches grants</p>
<p><b>ASPIRATIONS</b> To what do we aspire? Please describe your vision of a preferred future for NECC with this theme successfully implemented</p>
<p>Aspiration Notes: - have curriculum that prepares a <u>large</u> volume of students and prepares them for work or transfer - do research in developing programs and don't bring them to fruition without data and <u>measurable</u> outcomes!! And then evaluate -</p>
<p><b>RESULTS</b> What will we measure to determine if we have met your vision and implemented opportunities? What will the change be that we are known for?</p>
<p>Results Notes: see above re: data</p>

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<p><b>OPPORTUNITIES</b></p> <p>What are the best opportunities for NECC to achieve your vision of this theme?          How could we partner internally and externally to achieve this?</p> <p>Opportunity Notes:  <i>Collaborations &amp; campus partnerships</i>  <i>(developing more interdisciplinary models to support a wider range of learners)</i></p>
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<p><b>RESULTS</b></p> <p>What will we measure to determine if we have met your vision and implemented opportunities?          What will the change be that we are known for?</p> <p>Results Notes:  <i>Is NECC developing programs for new models of learning for our students?</i>  <i>Do these new models connect &amp; engage students across cultures &amp; communities?</i></p>

**Moore, Ashley**

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**From:** Soar Forum Curriculum Innovation <no-reply@wufoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 06, 2015 2:45 PM  
**To:** Shaffer, Wendy; Lavery, Cathy  
**Subject:** Curriculum Innovation [#4]

**Aspirations:**

To what do we aspire? Please describe your vision of a preferred future for NECC with this theme successfully implemented.

In a dream world there would be a way to bypass the layers of bureaucracy at the college when it comes to innovative ideas. Currently a great idea can be stopped at the dean level if the dean doesn't support your program. It could be stopped at the Academic Affairs level if the 10+ pages of paperwork are not filled out properly and on time. Even if it makes it through the various hurdles at the college it will take at least a year before the idea is implemented. If we have to plan everything at least a year in advance there is no way we can keep up with innovations in education.

**Moore, Ashley**

**From:** Soar Forum Curriculum Innovation <no-reply@wufoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 10, 2015 11:34 AM  
**To:** Shaffer, Wendy; Lavery, Cathy  
**Subject:** Curriculum Innovation [#5]

**Strengths:**

What is NECC doing really well presently to achieve this goal?

What areas of the college are our greatest assets in creating and meeting this theme's goals?

We have wonderful, creative, smart faculty and staff who want to do their best to serve our students. Our biggest assets are our faculty, the staff and administrators who support them, the Center for Professional Development, and the Center for Instructional Technology.

**Opportunities:**

What are the best opportunities for NECC to achieve your vision of this theme?

How could we partner internally and externally to achieve this?

While we have many, many creative faculty doing good work, we need to create more collective, larger-scale efforts to structure the educational experience in ways that research and practice show are effective.

Whatever strategies we choose - structured pathways, competency-based education, block scheduling, developmental/intrusive advising, first-year experience - we will need a comprehensive plan that uses assessment aimed at improving student learning and professional development focused on pedagogy as key components of implementation.

**Aspirations:**

To what do we aspire? Please describe your vision of a preferred future for NECC with this theme successfully implemented.

Students will have an NECC signature experience that borrows from what we know is working at other community colleges from across the country and our faculty, staff and administrators will work collectively to make it happen. Thoughtful professional development on pedagogy and assessment focused on the improvement of student learning will bolster these efforts.

**Results:**

What will we measure to determine if we have met your vision and implemented opportunities?

What will the change be that we are known for?

We reach the targets we want to achieve on student success metrics.

"Optional" strategies that we know benefit students will not be optional.

**Lavery, Cathy**

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**From:** Soar Forum Curriculum Innovation <no-reply@wufoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 19, 2015 3:04 PM  
**To:** Shaffer, Wendy; Lavery, Cathy  
**Subject:** Curriculum Innovation [#6]

**Strengths:** NECC offers a variety of program online, hybrid and face to face. Students are able to benefit taking these courses at their own pace. NECC offers a few bachelor's degree programs partnership with other Universities. Student can benefit from intership and extership programs thru NECC.

What is NECC doing really well presently to achieve this goal?

What areas of the college are our greatest assets in creating and meeting this theme's goals?

**Opportunities:**

What are the best opportunities for NECC to achieve your vision of this theme?

How could we partner internally and externally to achieve this?

Student that are in the Nursing program can benefit from completing their four year college at NECC. I think NECC should offer others Bachelor's degree programs for example: Psychology, Early Childhood Education and Criminal Justice. Even though Health programs are a high demand for our community, I believe Psychology, Early Childhood Education and Criminal Justice are a demand for our community as well. I know Daycare teachers are able to take a course to become teacher qualify. I understand the State of Massachusetts is pushing these Daycare teachers to get more educated and earn a Bachelor's degree in Early Child Education program. I believe it would be a great idea to offer a Bachelor's degree in this concentration.

**Aspirations:** I believe NECC is extremely concentrated in students future. It is definitely less complicated for a student to continue into a four year college while attending NECC. Students sometimes don't have to we aspire?

Please describe your vision of a preferred future for NECC with this theme successfully implemented. resources to travel far away from home and NECC has made students dream come true, right at their door steps. NECC can serve as an example to our sisters community colleges.

Results: I think if we offer these Bachelor's degree programs at NECC we will have more educated and accomplished students in our community. Student sometimes may feel shy to physically transfer to a four year college and here at NECC they feel at home.

What will we measure to determine if we have met your vision and Implemented opportunities?

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