



## DAKOTA COLLEGE AT BOTTINEAU ASSURANCE ARGUMENT SUMMARY CRITERION 1. THE INSTITUTION'S MISSION IS CLEAR AND ARTICULATED PUBLICLY.

### CRITERION 1. CORE COMPONENT SUMMARIES

#### The Institutional Mission is as follows:

Dakota College at Bottineau provides students with a quality education in a caring environment. The institution values diversity and personal enrichment by promoting engaged learning for employment and university transfer. With the help of a supportive community, Dakota College at Bottineau emphasizes nature and technology to accomplish its mission through an array of curricula, programs and services.

- Liberal arts education provides students with the knowledge and tools to continue their education, to serve as good stewards of the environment, and to function as responsible citizens.
- Career/technical education provides students with the knowledge and skills required to succeed by utilizing natural, human, and technological resources.
- Distance delivery provides students increased access to education and career opportunities.
- Community education provides diverse life-long learning experiences.
- Support services provide opportunities for individual growth and success.
- Campus activities provide for interpersonal development
- Campus outreach provides area schools and groups access to college resources.
- Workforce training and development provides the human resources for economic development.
- All programs provide a greater understanding of human diversity.

Dakota College at Bottineau's curricula, programs, and services take students beyond nature and technology and leave them with an ethic of concern and care for the natural world.

#### Core Component 1.A. The institution's mission is broadly understood within the institution and guides its operations.

- Current mission formally approved by the State Board of Higher Education in 2008.
- Focus on small, personal connection while acknowledging natural resources roots.
- 2017-2018 academic year: Mission reviewed by Senates (faculty, staff and students) with renewed support offered by all three groups.
- DCB's academic programs promote engaged learning, utilize technology, and provide a quality education.
- Student support services provide financial aid, admission support, mental health counseling, housing, health services, advising, academic and career counseling, disability services and tutoring to facilitate *individual growth and success*.
- Growing distance education numbers diversify modes of student engagement.
- Diversity is further reflected in the 28% of DCB students who self-identified as an ethnicity other than white. The Diversity Committee, TRiO Program, and Cultural Diversity Waivers, provide support and understanding.

#### Core Component 1.B. The Mission is articulated publicly.

- Found in: DCB Strategic Plan, Academic Catalog, Student Handbook, DCB Master Plan, DCB website.
- The Academic Assessment Committee, the General Education Committee, the Technology Committee, the Earth Day Committee, the Diversity Committee, and the Distance Education Committee address the Mission.
- DCB Mission links to the DCB Strategic Plan. Example: DCB Strategic Goal 2 centers on developing new academic curriculum that align with the Mission. Also, technology is used as a method of delivery for programs and services.



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- DCB Mission links to the DCB Master Plan. The new dining center, and facility improvements to Nelson Science Center highlight *support services providing opportunities for individual growth and success and providing a quality education in a caring environment.*

### Core Component 1.C. The institution understands the relationship between its mission and the diversity of society.

- Diversity is listed among DCB's Core Values.
- Diversity is represented in the DCB Strategic Plan with DCB's desire to bring quality programs to a variety of student populations.
- DCB works to ensure equal opportunities by following requirements of Title IX, the Rehabilitation Act, the Civil Rights Act, the Age Discrimination Act, and the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- From 2009-2018, DCB awarded 249 Cultural Diversity Waivers to students identifying as racially diverse.
- The Diversity Committee promotes inclusiveness and respect through raising cultural awareness and understanding.
- Under new leadership, the Committee is making efforts to increase activities, formalize its meeting processes, and produce more concrete objectives to guide its operations.

### Core Component 3.D. The institution's mission demonstrates commitment to the public good.

- The DCB Strategic Plan highlights new curriculum that interests students, and promotes economic development (DCB Strategic Goal 2).
- December 2013: DCB employed a full-time grant writer to secure funding for the College and the community. Examples: the Farmers Market Promotion Program, natural resource conservation and awareness training, and the Women in Aquaculture and Hydroculture W+H2O Camp.
- DCB provides facilities usage for the community. Example: Peace Garden Special Services regular training.
- DCB leases land and office space to the Building Blocks Learning Center and the North Dakota Forest Service.
- Community education provides seven to ten *diverse life-long learning experiences* each year.

## CRITERION 3. STRENGTHS

- With the detailed description of the campus mission, all entities on campus can easily identify the ways they demonstrate support.
- "Quality education in a caring environment" is well-known on campus.

## CRITERION 3. CHALLENGES

- The Mission does provide great detail, but it can be a bit long. Departments on campus will need to focus on their areas of contribution.
- Having a diverse student population in a homogeneous community could lead to questions about student morale.
- DCB lacks racial diversity among faculty and staff.

## CRITERION 3. NEW PLANS

- Improved Diversity efforts are only just beginning.