

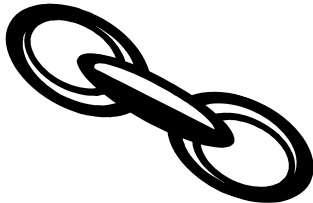


Southern State Community College

Linking “Looking In to Reach Out” to Secretary of Education, Margaret Spellings’s Commission Report, “A Test of Leadership: Charting the Future of U. S. Higher Education”

Prepared 5.24.07
From the Office of Assessment and Planning

Commission Recommendation 1: Expand higher education access and success by improving student preparation and persistence, addressing nonacademic barriers and providing significant increases in aid to low-income students. (Collaboration with K-12, early assessment initiatives, remove barriers to student mobility, clearer pathways, and early college awareness activities)



SSCC Strategic Response:

Strategic Priority I: Student Access and Success

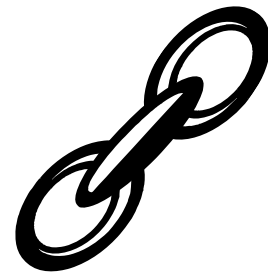
Southern State will promote accessibility by continually reviewing [outreach efforts](#), [entry processes](#), [convenience](#), and affordability factors. In addition, establishing viable [student support structures](#) and [pathways](#) will be imperative to student success.

Commission Recommendation 2: Address the escalating cost of college education. (New federal financial aid systems, new performance benchmarks to measure productivity and efficiency, incentives for fostering access, and revamp compliance materials)

SSCC Strategic Response:

Strategic Priority I: Student Access and Success

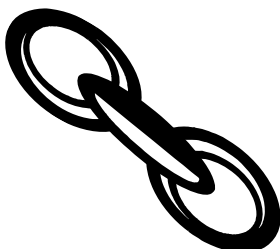
Southern State will promote accessibility by continually reviewing outreach efforts, entry processes, convenience, and [affordability factors](#). In addition, establishing viable student support structures and pathways will be imperative to student success.



Strategic Priority II: Maximize Learning Opportunities

Southern State will maximize learning opportunities by expanding and improving partnerships with business and other education institutions, taking a leadership role in expanding technology access, [implementing program evaluation based on need, effectiveness, and efficiencies](#).

Commission Recommendation 3: Change the higher education system from one based on reputation to one based on performance. (Robust culture of accountability and transparency, and consumer-friendly information database)

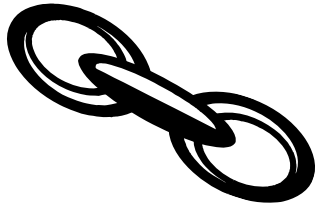


SSCC Strategic Response:

Strategic Priority V: Assessment and Institutional Effectiveness

[Demonstrate](#) the [effectiveness of programs](#), services and operations at Southern State for continuous quality improvement and [accountability](#) to students, citizens, businesses and industries and Ohio’s elected officials.

Commission Recommendation 4: Embrace a culture of continuous innovation and quality improvement by developing new pedagogies, curricula, and technologies to improve learning, particularly in the area of science and mathematical literacy. (Share educational resources among institutions, use distance learning, and technology based collaborative tools.)

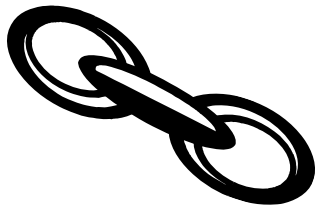


SSCC Strategic Response:

Strategic Priority IV: Teaching and Learning Excellence

A commitment to teaching and learning excellence can be demonstrated through [effective training and development activities](#) for faculty and staff, an organizational structure that [supports learning](#) and an [emphasis on quality](#) communicated through [outcomes measurement](#) and the [allocation of resources](#).

Commission Recommendation 5: Development of a national strategy for lifelong learning that helps all citizens understand the importance of preparing and participating in higher education throughout their lives. (Distance learning, attention to needs of adult learners, and certifications)

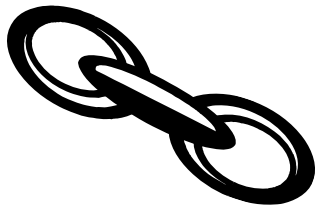


SSCC Strategic Response:

Strategic Priority II: Maximize Learning Opportunities

Southern State will maximize learning opportunities by [expanding and improving partnerships](#) with business and other education institutions, taking a leadership role in [expanding technology access](#), implementing program evaluation based on need, effectiveness, and efficiencies.

Commission Recommendation 6: Increased federal investment in areas critical to our nation's global competitiveness and a renewed commitment to attract the best and brightest minds from across the nation and around the world. (Education and research in STEM fields, multi-disciplinary research and curricula, emphasis on international education, expand partnerships that encourage progression of low-income and minority students through STEM fields)



SSCC Strategic Response:

Strategic Priority I, II, and IV address this recommendation to some extent.