Palo Verde College

Palo Verde Community College District

College Self-Assessment

Palo Verde College, established in 1947, is a small college with a diverse and complex student constituency. In addition to delivering instructional programs to students attending the Blythe main campus, the College provides instruction to students residing in Needles (100 miles north of Blythe), inmates incarcerated at two nearby state prison facilities, inmates located at thirteen other correctional facilities in California, students enrolled in noncredit programs in Blythe, and public safety personnel through instructional service agreements (ISAs), in Riverside and other locations in California.

Here follows our analysis of the ARCC-2011 performance indicators for Palo Verde College:

Table 1.1 Student Progress and Achievement Rate. We are concerned with this declining trend, and we are putting special emphasis in our strategic planning on promoting degree completion and transfer. The relatively low rate can be explained partly by the substantial number of ISA students who are seeking skill enhancement in their public safety jobs by taking individual courses with no plan for a degree or certificate.

Table 1.1a Percent of Students Who Earned at Least 30 Units. We are pleased with our highest-ever showing for this measure, which also places us above average in our peer group. The commitment of College personnel to seek ways to improve retention and persistence through implementation of the Enrollment Management Plan seems to be meeting with some success.

Table 1.2 Persistence Rate. This rate has shown some improvement in the 2008-09 cohort compared to the previous cohort; nonetheless, this indicator is an ongoing concern for us. The relatively low rate can be explained partly by the substantial number of ISA students who are seeking skill enhancement in their public safety jobs but do not intend to re-enroll or complete a certificate or degree.

Table 1.3 Annual Successful Course Completion Rate for Credit Vocational Courses. The rate has declined somewhat in recent cohorts, though it maintains an acceptable position in our peer group. We attribute this performance to the positive motivation among students—public safety personnel seeking career advancement and skills upgrade—enrolled in the College's programs through ISAs.

Table 1.4 Annual Successful Course Completion for Credit Basic Skills Courses. This rate has improved slightly over the last cohort but still remains on the low side for our peer group. We are addressing this chronically low rate through ongoing faculty assessments of placement methods, class scheduling practices, lab and lecture policies and grading procedures for basic skills classes.

Table 1.5 Credit Basic Skills Courses. This rate falls slightly below average in our peer group and has declined over the past few cohorts. When compared with the rate in Table 1.4 above, it seems that once students pass the first basic skills course, it is likely they will continue to be successful in subsequent courses in that discipline.

ARCC 2011 Report: College Level Indicators

Palo Verde College

Palo Verde Community College District

College Performance Indicators

Student Progress and Achievement: Degree/Certificate/Transfer

Table 1.1: Student Progress and Achievement Rate

Percentage of first-time students who showed intent to complete and who achieved any of the following outcomes within six years: Transferred to a four-year college; or earned an AA/AS; or earned a Certificate (18 units or more); or achieved "Transfer Directed" status; or achieved "Transfer Prepared" status. (See explanation in Appendix B.)

	2002-2003 to 2007-2008	2003-2004 to 2008-2009	2004-2005 to 2009-2010
Student Progress and Achievement Rate	41.6%	39.7%	37.8%

Table 1.1a: Percent of Students Who Earned at Least 30 Units

Percentage of first-time students who showed intent to complete and who earned at least 30 units while in the California Community College System. (See explanation in Appendix B.)

	2002-2003 to 2007-2008	2003-2004 to 2008-2009	2004-2005 to 2009-2010
Percent of Students Who Earned at Least 30 Units	62.2%	59.9%	69.4%

Table 1.2: Persistence Rate

Percentage of first-time students with a minimum of six units earned in a Fall term and who returned and enrolled in the subsequent Fall term anywhere in the system. (See explanation in Appendix B.)

	Fall 2006 to Fall 2007	Fall 2007 to Fall 2008	Fall 2008 to Fall 2009
Persistence Rate	39.9%	36.7%	38.3%

ARCC 2011 Report: College Level Indicators

Palo Verde College

Palo Verde Community College District

College Performance Indicators

Student Progress and Achievement: Vocational/Occupational/Workforce Development

Table 1.3: Annual Successful Course Completion Rate for Credit Vocational Courses

See explanation in Appendix B.

	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
Annual Successful Course Completion Rate for Vocational Courses	89.1%	84.4%	84.4%

Pre-Collegiate Improvement: Basic Skills, ESL, and Enhanced Noncredit

Table 1.4: Annual Successful Course Completion Rate for Credit Basic Skills Courses

See explanation in Appendix B.

	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
Annual Successful Course Completion Rate for Basic Skills Courses	42.9%	39.1%	41.8%

Table 1.5: Improvement Rates for ESL and Credit Basic Skills Courses

See explanation in Appendix B.

	2005-2006 to 2007-2008	2006-2007 to 2008-2009	2007-2008 to 2009-2010
ESL Improvement Rate	.%	.%	25.0%
Basic Skills Improvement Rate	54.1%	50.5%	48.9%

Table 1.6: Career Development and College Preparation (CDCP) Progress and Achievement Rate

See explanation in Appendix B.

	2005-2006 to 2007-2008	2006-2007 to 2008-2009	2007-2008 to 2009-2010
CDCP Progress and Achievement Rate	.%	.%	.%

Palo Verde College

Palo Verde Community College District

College Profile

Table 1.7:
Annual Unduplicated Headcount and Full-Time Equivalent Students (FTES)

	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
Annual Unduplicated Headcount	6,563	6,290	6,725
Full-Time Equivalent Students (FTES)*	1,819	1,917	1,916

Source: The annual unduplicated headcount data are produced by the Chancellor's Office, Management Information System. The FTES data are produced from the Chancellor's Office, Fiscal Services 320 Report.
*FTES data for 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 are based on the FTES recalculation. FTES data for 2009-2010 are based on the FTES annual data.

Table 1.8:
Age of Students at Enrollment

	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
19 or less	9.3%	12.2%	10.9%
20 - 24	11.1%	11.5%	11.5%
25 - 49	63.4%	59.0%	61.3%
Over 49	15.7%	16.3%	15.1%
Unknown	0.6%	1.0%	1.2%

Source: Chancellor's Office, Management Information System

Table 1.9:
Gender of Students

	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
Female	30.6%	33.3%	32.7%
Male	69.3%	66.1%	67.0%
Unknown	0.0%	0.6%	0.3%

Source: Chancellor's Office, Management Information System

Palo Verde College

Palo Verde Community College District

College Profile

Table 1.10:
Ethnicity of Students

	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
African American	9.3%	9.7%	9.2%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	1.5%	1.4%	0.8%
Asian	3.6%	3.9%	2.6%
Filipino	1.4%	1.3%	1.1%
Hispanic	25.6%	27.0%	35.8%
Pacific Islander	0.8%	0.6%	0.5%
Two or More Races	.%	.%	0.7%
Unknown/Non-Respondent	8.1%	8.7%	8.4%
White Non-Hispanic	49.7%	47.3%	40.8%

Source: Chancellor's Office, Management Information System

Palo Verde College

Palo Verde Community College District

College Peer Grouping

Table 1.11: Peer Grouping

	Indicator	College's Rate	Peer Group Average	Peer Group Low	Peer Group High	Peer Group
A	Student Progress and Achievement Rate	37.8	48.7	37.8	69.0	*A5*
B	Percent of Students Who Earned at Least 30 Units	69.4	68.3	63.9	72.4	*B5*
C	Persistence Rate	38.3	55.9	29.3	75.6	*C4*
D	Annual Successful Course Completion Rate for Credit Vocational Courses	84.4	89.8	83.6	96.8	*D6*
E	Annual Successful Course Completion Rate for Credit Basic Skills Courses	41.8	56.5	41.8	71.4	*E4*
F	Improvement Rate for Credit Basic Skills Courses	48.9	57.6	39.5	76.0	*F2*
G	Improvement Rate for Credit ESL Courses	25.0	43.0	0.0	67.2	*G1*

Note: Please refer to Appendices A and B for more information on these rates. The technical details of the peer grouping process are available in Appendix D.