

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT, EFFECTIVENESS, AND ACCREDITATION MEETING ON April 14, 2026, at 1:00 P.M., DON 132 MINUTES

Helena College Mission: Helena College Supports our diverse community by providing the paths and tools necessary to assist learners in achieving their educational and career goals.

IDEA Council Mission: The Institutional Development, Effectiveness, and Accreditation Council is a representative body whose mission is to advance the strategic direction of Helena College through assessment and planning. The committee also has oversight for activities related to maintaining institutional compliance with regional accreditation policies and standards.

Attendees

- **Jessie Pate (Chair)**, Director of Institutional Research & Effectiveness
- **Marika Adamek**, Assistant Registrar
- **Katelynn Eberhardt**, Director of Student Wellbeing and Engagement
- **Nathan Munn**, Social Sciences Instructor
- **Abby Rausch**, Director of Marketing, Communications, and Alumni Relations
- **Bryon Steinwand**, IT & Programming Instructor, Assessment Database Developer
- **Cody Torres**, Welding Instructor
- **Paige Payne (Recorder)**, Executive Assistant

Priorities for AY2526

1. Carry out the institutional assessment plan.
2. Coordinate the collection of data in support of strategic goal IM-1 (community engagement).
3. Recommend leading indicators and real-time metrics aligned with each KPI under the new metrics tree model.
4. Prepare two ad hoc reports and coordinate one virtual visit in response to NWCCU recommendations.

Pre-Reads/Supplemental Materials

- IDEA Council Minutes 20260331
- Ad Hoc Report and Appendix

Agenda

Approve minutes: IDEA Council Minutes 20260331

- Nathan Munn moved to approve. Marika Adamek seconded. Approved

Prep for NWCCU Ad Hoc Virtual Visit

- IDEA and Cabinet are paired in the meeting on Friday, April 17, 2026 from 11 to 11:50 a.m.
 - Join on your own device and have your camera on. The ZOOM link is in the calendar invite.
- *Recommendation 1: Implement an institutional-level assessment process that informs operational planning, allowing for effective resource allocation to enhance student learning and achievement (2020 Standard(s) 1.B.1)*
 - Revised KPI to 6 to be aligned to academic outcomes. Reviewed by IDEA and Cabinet.

- Budget templates which project to year three and identify big ticket items.
 - Budget Council meeting summary in the MMM bi-weekly.
 - Workshops for budget authors.
- Institutional planning days and calendar.
- Quarterly IT, Budget, and Facilities update to Campus Coordinating Committee (CCC), Dean's Cabinet and bi-annually at the State of the College.
 - Long range building plans and maintenance are more transparent.
- On April 20, Cabinet will meet for an Institutional Assessment and Planning Day.
- Dashboards and trend data discussed and analyzed in the IDEA and Cabinet meetings.
 - Holistic transparency.
- Non-academic program review changes are positive.
- How is HC ensuring that IA is meaningful, informs planning and resource allocation rather than being a compliance exercise?
 - Annual assessment scheduled.
 - Annual plans and program reviews, KPIs, peer institutions, enrollment, and dashboards.
 - Share recommendations, data and trends with Cabinet.
 - Learning Outcomes.
 - Institutional Calendar

- *Recommendation 2: Expand assessment beyond the course level, to include program and institutional outcomes that evaluate and demonstrate the quality of learning and use the results to inform continuous improvement of student learning outcomes. (2020 Standard(s) 1.C.5;1.C.6,;1.C.7)*

- *Recommendation 3: Widely publish identified disaggregated indicators of student achievement and those of peer institutions, and demonstrate the use of the data to inform planning, decision-making and allocation of resources. (2020 Standard(s) 1.D.2;1.D.3)*
 - Allocation of resources based on data. See Recommendation 1.
 - Example: The Institutional Innovation project will concentrate on increasing the online graduation rate through professional development and ACUE. The gap was identified by the data highlighted by program reviews.
 - The CCC, Cabinet, and IDEA review the dashboards and discuss if there is a better way to display the data for relevance.

Overall, we are building a shared understanding of what IDEA is doing and as the next year progresses, the process will bring more clarification as IDEA continues in its new role which includes advising Cabinet.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 28