FAQs

WHAT IS THE COLLEGE DOING TO ADDRESS THE ENROLLMENT DECLINE?

The Draft Strategic Enrollment Management Plan (SEMP) has four strategic directions:
1. Improve student persistence, retention and completion.
2. Establish a comprehensive and effective outreach and recruitment program.
3. Develop and utilize a data analysis model.
4. Ensure policies, practices and procedures support student success.

Focusing on the success of our current students and on outreach to potential students are both crucial. The Draft SEMP will be posted for comment soon. Everyone’s comments to the draft are needed.

The College currently has many initiatives which focus on success for our current students, including college-wide consistency in syllabi, redesigning Developmental Education, embedding assessment into both academic and non-academic programs. The Institutional Response to the HLC Site Visit includes a discussion of many of these initiatives, starting on page 25.

The entire College needs to be involved in restoring Pima Community College’s standing in and trust within the community. Without all of us, the downward trend in enrollment will not reverse.

HOW WILL THE COLLEGE ADDRESS THE BUDGET?

We are starting our budget development discussions, which will be a multi-faceted and challenging process. Expenditure limitations are one component, particularly with proposed legislation on expenditure limitations parameters; expenditure limitations restrict the amount that the College can spend based on enrollment, even if the College is able to collect more in taxes. We are keeping all options open.

I encourage everyone to attend one of the finance/budget presentations that Dr. David Bea and I will be giving from February through early April, both to learn more and to participate in the discussion.

WHAT IS THE VALUE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION AND WHAT ARE THE CURRENT INITIATIVES?

We are currently in the discovery phase, exploring possibilities and building relationships. Potential partners in Mexico, China and Korea have been identified. We expect there will be groups of international students starting Summer 2015.

An excellent discussion of the value of internationalization, both to the College and to the community, can be found in the Ricardo Castro-Salazar’s guest opinion piece, “PCC reacting to imperatives for global education” published in the Arizona Daily Star on January 5, 2015.