



HLC: 28 Days and Counting...Did You Know?

October 21, 2013

Did you know that administrators must demonstrate how their department's planned annual budget is linked to the accomplishment of at least one of the goals stated in CMU's strategic plan?

Evidence Item IA3-1. Annual budget requests by unit administrators must demonstrate how the request relates to CMU's strategic plan and goals. The CMU Vision statement lists the specific goal of fostering "an administration that uses human and natural resources wisely." The University's annual budget request packet requires a narrative that links any planned funding request to the accomplishment of one or more goals from the University's strategic plan. Additionally, guiding principles for budgeting are included in the budget packets and call for employees to "budget conservatively . . . protect the gains achieved to date . . . and identify and eliminate the unnecessary."

The decrease in state funding in recent years has necessitated creative resource-building strategies that support CMU's delivery of quality education to enhance student success. Recent effective budgeting initiatives include:

- implementing a more efficient fee system for student credit hours;
- partnering with the city and county to expand campus facilities;
- acting upon the goals of improving student retention rates and graduation ratios;
- improving the physical facilities and technology systems throughout the main and outlying campuses;
- increasing classroom and living space because of student population growth and increasing faculty and staff accordingly.

To learn more:

- Click [here](#) to read more of the PDF version of the report.
- Click [here](#) to read the related core-component in the web-version of the report.

Please note that in the Self-Study Report, maroon text indicates the HLC's criteria for accreditation, while CMU's response is in black text, with links to supporting documentation identified by blue text (available only in web-version of the report in MAVzone).