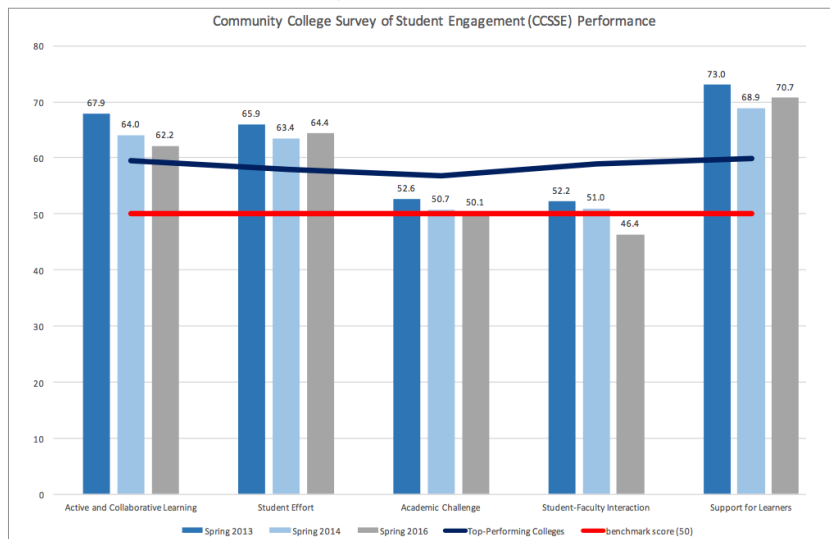




Department for Institutional Effectiveness & Quality Assurance

INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS & QUALITY ASSURANCE | INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY | OFFICE OF THE INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

Academic Quality



Vision: We provide quality education today for a successful tomorrow.

The college will administer the Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE) in spring 2018 as part of its biennial schedule. The college has exceeded four out of the five benchmarks (score of 50) and been a top performing institution for the *Active and Collaborative Learning*, *Student Effort*, and *Support for Learnings* benchmarks (NCCBP). However, in spring 2016 the college dropped below the benchmark for *Student-Faculty Interaction*. COM-FSM is seeking to raise that benchmark by enhancing the *Student-Faculty Interaction* as part of its

student success efforts. The *Academic Challenge* benchmark examines student satisfaction with the college's efforts to present work that is intellectually challenging and creative. The *Academic Challenge* score is just hovering above the benchmark having dropped to merely 50.1, indicating this is another area for improvement. The CCSSE benchmarks are also used as measures of success for the college's strategic plan. Thus, performance on these benchmarks are considered institutional priorities.



Technology

To improve and support academic quality:

- For cost efficiencies and to ensure adequate and sufficient technology needs are being met, all technology equipment is centralized under IEQA, ITO;
- Interactive white boards are being installed across the college;
- A new primary server room switch upgrade was completed to optimize the digital workplace, enhance security, provide redundant management and power systems, and to enhance system availability, continuity of operations, and quality of services features;
- A LAN fiber optics cable rerouting is occurring for Pohnpei Campus in advance of anticipated construction and for potential to connect the campus to a

- high-speed mode fiber ring for improved connectivity speeds and linkage to the National Campus for online services.;
- WiFi access points to improve network accessibility are being expanded at National, Pohnpei, Chuuk, Yap, and FMI Campuses;
- Improved WiFi in the residence halls was completed to promote improved communications to campus residents for internet research and online partnering between faculty and students; and
- SIS enhancements continue with a potential learning management system (LMS) identified, development of a *Financial Aid Transcript* for improved tracking and reporting, and security upgrades.

Mission Statement

The College of Micronesia-FSM is a learner-centered institution of higher education that is committed to the success of the Federated States of Micronesia by providing academic and career & technical educational programs characterized by continuous improvement and best practices.



Voluntary Framework of Accountability

COM-FSM is participating in the **Voluntary Framework of Accountability (VFA)** for the first year. This initiative is led by the American Association of Community Colleges (AACCC). The VFA is an effort to utilize appropriate, more accurate measures of accountability based on community college students and missions. The VFA is for community colleges, by community colleges.

Strategic Plan 2018-2023

The Strategic Planning Working Group (SPWG), has completed its work, and the board has endorsed the *Core Values*, *Mission (Mission Review and Recommendations)*, and the Vision Statement (*Vision Statement Report*). Vision: *We provide quality education today for a successful tomorrow*. At this meeting the *Strategic Plan 2018-2023* will be presented for the board's consideration and approval.

Follow Up Report

By October 15, 2017, COM-FSM is required to submit a *Follow Up Report* to the Accrediting Commission, ACCJC, as indicated in the *Action Letter* from July 8, 2015. COM-FSM received **reaffirmation of Accreditation for 18 months**, but during that 18 months the college was expected to have fully addressed two recommendations to meet the standards and a Commission Concern. Additionally, the college must address 5 recommendations for which the college meets the standards, but for which the team felt improvements to institutional effectiveness were essential (details are in the *Action Letter*).



COM-FSM was guided by the *External Evaluation Report* of the visiting team and the *Action Letter*. The Accrediting Commission will review the *Follow Up Report* at their January 2018 meeting.

The *Action Letter* indicated the report was due on October 1, 2017, and a subsequent reminder letter indicated the report was due on October 15, 2017. The ALO contacted the newly appointed Commission President, Richard Winn, who stated in an email dated August 9, 2017, "We will be pleased to accept your report on the 15th of October."

The draft *Follow Up Report* is presented for the Board's review and endorsement.

The ACCJC has undergone a major staff change, and several new Commissioners have also been elected. Thus, it is ideal for the college to request to appear before the Commission at their January 2018 meeting.

IEQA

- On August 1-2, 2017, the offices of IEQA led efforts for the *Assessment Summit 2017* where author and expert *Linda Suskie* facilitated the summit focus, *Making Assessment Useful and Worthwhile* and *Keeping Things Simple*. There were over 110 participants. The campuses in Yap, Chuuk, and Kosrae will conduct mini-summits to ensure college-wide faculty participation.
- VPIEQA, Frankie Harriss has been appointed for a two-year term as a Commissioner to the American Association of Community Colleges (AACCC) *Commission on Communications and Marketing*.
- VPIEQA, Frankie Harriss attended a formal graduation ceremony at the University of Liverpool on July 17, 2017, receiving recognition for having earned the Degree of Doctor of Education (degree awarded February 2017).