

Lane Community College
Unit Plan for the Center for Meeting & Learning

Chapter 0: Alignment with College

“How is your unit aligned with the college’s goals?”

Answer this question by describing how your services support the following:

➤ College Vision and Mission

The Center for Meeting and Learning (CML) provides the college and general public with the facility, staffing and equipment to hold conferences, workshops, seminars, banquets, and other events that are affordable and support the college’s vision and mission to provide quality and lifelong education.

➤ Core Values (6)

1. Learning

The events at the Center for Meeting and Learning provide the community, students, faculty, and staff with learning opportunities that may otherwise not be available at the college (state-wide and national conferences, cultural events, etc.).

The CML provides a hands-on learning environment for Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management students. The students are integrated into the daily operations of the CML as a part of their hospitality and catering lab experience. They are able to interact with other students, staff, and the community (as customers) and receive praise for their work well done.

The CML management style and staffing is an excellent example of:

- “fostering a culture of achievements in a caring environment” and
- recognizing and respecting the unique needs of each learner.

2. Diversity

We encourage and welcome diverse groups from the community to hold and attend events at the CML.

We have a diverse group of staff, faculty, and students who work in the CML.

3. Collaboration and Partnership

Community events at the CML are clear examples of the college and community groups collaborating together or working in partnership with one another to sponsor an event.

The CML functions as a meeting place for college departments. The CML offers an environment to bring large and small groups of people together for different purposes (i.e., Classified Day, all staff in-service, and inter-departmental meetings).

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4. Innovation

CML is a new facility with a new staff and new set of circumstances that does not duplicate any other part of the college or any other meeting facility in the community. We have had to be very courageous, creative, and experimental in our efforts to begin operations.

Because we are so new, we are open to change.

Start up challenges (both internal and external) have encouraged staff to work creatively through a variety of situations.

We have had several good ideas, but changed and made them even better. We have also faced the “failure” of ideas and understood why (i.e., Hospitality/Culinary labs in the beginning were not very well organized. Now they are doing much better).

5. Integrity

It is encouraged and it is evident in the way that staff interacts with students and customers that we foster an environment of respect, fairness, honesty, and openness.

The CML is a new resource to Lane Community College. Staff is on track to making it a self-sufficient amenity that the college can be proud of.

6. Accessibility

The CML a new facility that is physically accessible by elevator, wide halls and doorways, etc.

The CML provides a setting for cultural and social activities to take place. It features various amenities (auditorium, internet access, larger and smaller rooms to break out into) which provides a venue for strategically growing learning opportunities.

➤ Strategic Directions (4)

1. Achieve Financial Stability

The goal of the CML is to be financially self-sufficient and to able to make a contribution to the General Fund. We would like to create a reserve account that would be used to keep the facility up to date and meet the future needs of our users.

2. Enhance College Climate

Relationships between the college and community are enhanced as we work together on events at the CML.

The enthusiasm of students over their involvement in the CML promotes increased interest in the Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management Program and may lead to higher enrollment and student retention.

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3. Implement Business, Workforce Development and Extended Learning Reorganization

The reorganization of Conference and Culinary Services (CCS) to include the Food Services Department, Center for Meeting and Learning, Catering Kitchen, and Culinary Arts and Hospitality Program has been completed. The hiring of a permanent CCS director, executive chef, and food service department coordinator has also been completed.

Staff members of the CML are working together to bring the CML to profitability. The goal is to bring in \$200,000 to \$250,000 in external events to the CML in 2003-04 and \$300,000 in external events in 2004-05.