

**IMPERIAL VALLEY COLLEGE  
VISIONING PROCESS FOCUS GROUP**

**SAN PASQUAL VISIT  
WEDNESDAY  
OCTOBER 15, 2003**

**NOTES/COMMENTS**

Five (5) Guests Present  
Marian Long, IVC Board of Trustees Member  
Rebecca Ramirez, IVC Board of Trustees Member – Host  
Rebecca Green, IVC – Facilitator  
Dixie Krimm, IVC – Recorder  
Carol Lee, IVC – Recorder  
Dr. Paul Pai, President, IVC  
Bill Gay, IVC Communication/Media Liaison

**6:40 PM Meeting Started**

Introduction of Rebecca Ramirez by Dr. Paul Pai. Invitation to attend the county-wide focus group meeting on January 10, 2004 at IVC.

Rebecca Ramirez – Welcome to community members present and introductions of IVC Facilitator and Recorders.

6:45 PM Video Presentation  
6:54 PM Session Ground Rules presented by Rebecca Green  
6:58 PM Questions

**Warm Up Questions/Comments**

- Video: Any surprises – average age of 27.6; very good
- Fact Sheet: informative
- Attendance at IVC (self or family): 3 guests responded to the positive for themselves and family members

**IVC's Linkage to Total District**

- Not sure what the relationship is to the community; still new to area (6-7 years)
- Important relationship with high schools for remediation needs in English and Math. Student achievement.
- Distance difficulty – appreciates the outreach to the valley
- IVC vs. AWC (Arizona Western College) – it's not the same
- Best Role – enabling the citizens to get a better job to upgrade their standards of living; smaller schools are looking for other recourses; more dialog between schools

**IVC's Linkage to Specific Communities**

- Relationship between IVC and your community
  - o Expand relationship
  - o Video courses; video classes; on-line classes; IVC instructors working with our teachers
  - o Do classes at IVC; offer math courses here
  - o Going to College culture is developing; college representatives are always welcomed
  - o Give students options – maybe not necessarily academic type courses more types of training (Examples: plumbing, electrical, air conditioning tech, carpenters – more than what ROP can provide)
  - o Shared facilities; CAD for Drafting and Architecture

- Changes in Community
  - o Changes are happening; turnaround in community; openness to be involved; students are thinking past school now; any trade skills; stepping stones to the future
- IVC Reputation in your Community
  - o So far away – students have trouble just going to the library in Yuma
  - o Positive – visit from IVC President (second time) greatly appreciated
- How can IVC overcome Distance Issues
  - o Bus Service
  - o Long Distance Learning
  - o Classes on campus
  - o Teach vocation education
  - o Do want students to experience college

### **General Perceptions**

- Class impaction; over crowded
- Hours not accommodating to students; odd hours
- Would you recommend IVC to friends today?
  - o Needs to be more convenient
  - o Closeness to AWC
  - o One Guest identified her lack of knowledge about IVC
  - o Lazy students – make it easier to get them to IVC
- What do you want?
  - o Fun Classes for ourselves (for adults – painting/ceramics/photo, etc.)
  - o Academic classes for students and fun things
  - o What can IVC do for our kids here?
    - Classes here
    - Success for students here
  - o Bridge – College Bound or Technical Programs
  - o Broader horizons
  - o Motivation – start earlier/elementary schools – early bonus
- IVC as an Educational Institution
  - o Still conducts a large amount of remedial courses – need for education community to increase rigor in step with the new requirements for K-12
  - o Don't know enough about it
- Change – Bring campus here!
- “Where Success Begins” – No, “Begins as San Pasqual – Continues at IVC”
- To Attend or Not Attend
  - o Distance
  - o It's not the quality – it's the distance!
- Strengths
  - o That IVC is reaching out to all communities
  - o Concern about what you the stakeholders want
  - o Board of Trustees to face needs
  - o Size
- Weaknesses
  - o Access to core classes
  - o Articulation expansion with four-year institutions
  - o Lack of viable equipment (better equipment)
  - o Outdated equipment (Chemistry Department)

### **Programs**

- Future of IVC/Programs
  - o Major technology center next to IVC; productions; news casts, etc.; central location for media stuff

- With high school rise in achievement the expectation for IVC will increase (courses and instructors)
- Reduction of remedial courses
- Regarding the current water swap – population is changing and increasing; Cargo Airport depot will increase jobs which will increase the learning need for meeting job requirements through more technology learning type programs and courses; more job requirement needs to be met are on the horizon
- Cliental will become more sophisticated
- Dorms
- Geothermal plans in North; more dairies; more industry
- Increase rigor; challenges for the future
- Services Provided or Not Finding
  - Appreciate Financial Aid assistance to students
  - Appreciate Talent Search
  - Would like other programs for the other students – wants Upward Bound – District would consider doing anything
  - Teachers of handicapped students needed; emergency assistance from the college desired if necessary (counseling, etc.) – need awareness of what IVC could do
- Question #3 – Many colleges offer their courses on-line – would this be beneficial?
  - YES
- Move campus here or reverse situation – dorms here; send IVC faculty
- Questions #6 & 7 – Extra Curricular, sports or arts programs:
  - 3-dimensional arts programs; cultural access; short term classes from area classes
  - Summer mini-classes
  - Customer service (Casino nearby – training needs)
  - Security/first aid/CPR training
  - Hospitality courses/program (done here)
  - Adult Education is huge here
  - Hotel Management/culinary

### **Personal Involvement/Commitment with College**

- How has IVC affected business-livelihood-family?
  - IVC provided the education for some of the guests present who currently hold positions in the San Pasqual area
  - IVC alumni present; also identified other family members attended IVC (children and spouses)
  - Small community sense
- Any Changes?
  - Distance
  - Way of getting IVC teachers over here
  - Friday/Saturday classes (15 students necessary)

### **Facilities**

- Best facilities: Nursing, POST, Preschool, Shop-Welding
- Worst facilities: Science building and parking

### **Communications**

- How do you hear about IVC programs/services/registration dates?
  - Catalogs
  - Not receiving anything
  - No access to county newspaper
  - Don't find out about IVC
  - Registration information – not receiving
- How can we provide this information?
  - E-mail contact with schools – list serve
  - Use Yuma-Sun

- Counselors visits on a quarterly basis/bring over the catalog
- Community likes – if you're going to do something, they like to see if you do it.
- Yuma County Fair – set up IVC booth
- Participate in Career Day, Indian Festivals, other area events to gain more exposure here

**Conclusion/Wrap-Up**

- The more the better
- Percentage on people in the community that have access to computers is an unknown factor regarding student access
- IVC Foundation participation – Community member (needed from San Pasqual)
- Business/Community involvement
- More visibility in the area by IVC people (counseling stated)

Respectively Submitted:

Carol E. Lee

10/16/03 Revised: 12/03/03