

Ohlone College  
Glossary of Planning Terminology  
01-14-10

Planning Term	Definition
Annual Planning Cycle	Process of prioritizing Program Improvement Objectives from the Program and Services Review as a basis for annual college planning. For Program Improvement Objectives that require additional resources, a further prioritization as a basis for resource allocation and budget development occurs.
Assessment	Strategies for measuring success in achieving: College Goals and Objectives, Student Learning Outcomes, Student Learning Impacts, Program Improvement Objectives, and effective processes.
College Action Plans	Statements of how the college objectives are going to be accomplished by college programs and service areas, specifying responsibilities and timelines, as appropriate.
College Goals	College-wide, big picture directions for the institution. They state what will be achieved but not how.
College Objectives	Specific, measurable statements of what will be achieved in one-year increments to reach the college goals.
Environmental Scan	An environmental scan is the acquisition and use of information about events, trends, and relationships in the local community and beyond that informs the college of forces and needs relevant to planning future direction. Environmental scanning constitutes a primary mode for institutional learning and self assessment.
Mission	Statement of purpose and scope of the college; externally limited to first two years of college education; defines student population. Primary mission from California Community Colleges includes transfer, basic skills and English as a Second Language, career and technical education, and economic development.
Program and Services Review	Process by which college programs and services (defined by Activity Center Codes) review and assess their work, following guidelines established by the college, leading to the identification of Program Improvement Objectives. Involves Instructional Programs and Disciplines, Student Development programs and departments, and Administrative Services departments. Program Improvement Objectives identified in Program and Services Review feed into the college's Annual Planning Cycle.
Program Improvement Objectives	Measurable objectives identified in Program and Services Review to improve the program or service in support of student learning, including what will be achieved and why. The objectives are reviewed and revised on a regular basis.
Program and Service Action Plans	Steps to achieve program improvement objectives stated in annual sequence, specifying responsibilities and timelines, as appropriate.
Resources	Human, technology, equipment, facility and fiscal requirements for achieving college and program objectives.
Strategic Planning Cycle	Regular and systematic process (every three to five years) of using internal and external assessments to review, assess and revise the college mission, vision, values and goals.
Student Achievement Outcomes	A series of measures including course completion, course retention, persistence, program completion, and others.
Student Learning Outcomes, Course Level	Broad measureable statements of the knowledge, skills, abilities, and attitudes a student will have attained upon course completion.

Student Learning Outcomes, Program Level	Broad measureable statements of the knowledge, skills, abilities, and attitudes a student will have attained upon completion of a course cluster constituting a program or discipline. Student Development programs and departments also define Student Learning Outcomes for their areas.
Student Learning Outcomes, College Level	Broad measureable statements of the knowledge, skills, abilities, and attitudes a student will attain as a result of their Ohlone College experience. Individual courses, programs and services at Ohlone assist the student in promoting personal, cultural, and intellectual growth, as well as intellectual curiosity and analytical thinking.
Student Learning Impacts	Administrative Services departments identify impacts that their services have on supporting student learning.
Values	State what the college holds to be important; form the rationale for college goals.
Vision	Statement of where the college is going and what we wish to be in the future as an institution.