



## LEARNING COLLEGE OF CHOICE

### INTRODUCTION

Butler has embarked on a journey, which places Learning at the heart of our institution. This is the journey of the Learning College, an institution driven by quality and dedicated to engaging its students in learning experiences, which expands their minds and spirit.

When students and stakeholders choose Butler, we choose them. We are dedicated to their success. We are driven by the desire to bring out the best in those we serve. When they succeed, so do we. We are a Learning College. Learning is at the heart of what we do.

### OUR MISSION

Butler Community College exists to develop responsible, involved lifelong learners and to contribute to the vitality of the communities it serves.

### OUR VISION

Butler will be the Learning College of Choice for the region, engaging students and other stakeholders in exceptional instructional programs and services that directly relate to their needs and prepare them for success.

### OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Advance 21st century skills through the Learning PACT (Personal Development, Analytical Thinking, Communication and Technology Skills) with our students.
- Build student engagement inside and outside the classroom.
- Respond with agility to area employer demands.
- Expand resources through entrepreneurial endeavors.
- Enhance the college's facilities and grounds.

### TIMELESS INSTITUTIONAL VALUES

- Quality
- Integrity
- Service
- Caring

### BUTLER'S PURPOSES

Butler is a publicly supported, comprehensive community college that continually identifies and addresses the changing learning needs of the individuals and communities it serves. The college enhances the social and economic well-being of the region by offering:

- Associate degree programs/transfer curricula that prepare learners for success in 4-year college/university settings.
- Associate degree programs, certificates and courses that prepare learners for success in entering and progressing in the workforce.
- Customized training, workshops, and seminars that meet the needs of area business and industry.
- Basic skills curricula, including adult basic education and developmental coursework, that prepare learners for success in the college setting.
- Comprehensive and coherent support services that aid learners in achieving their goals.
- Programs, courses, and cultural and sports activities that provide recreational and personal enrichment opportunities for learners and college constituents.
- Facilities, services, resources and partnerships that facilitate the success of external stakeholder groups.



## BUTLER LEARNING COLLEGE PRINCIPLES

As a dynamic, responsible Learning College, Butler faculty, staff and administration:

### FOCUS ON LEARNING

We seek student and stakeholder feedback and use that feedback to shape programs and services that are directly related to their learning needs. We rely upon documented evidence to determine that improved and expanded learning takes place.

### ASSUME PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

We assume responsibility and ownership in helping to achieve and maintain performance standards that contribute to the college's mission and key performance indicators.

### ADVANCE ACTIVE ENGAGEMENT IN LEARNING

We act as learning facilitators, engaging students and co-workers in a variety of learning experiences inside and outside the classroom setting.

### PROVIDE MULTIPLE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

We sustain safe, functional and inviting learning environments to offer a variety of programming and services options that meet the learning needs of students and other stakeholders.

### VALUE OUR HUMAN RESOURCES

Through our active engagement in systematic institutional and personal growth and development, we foster a climate of excellence in which all employees are empowered to contribute to the advancement of the college's mission, vision and learning college principles.

### MAKE DECISIONS BASED ON FACTS

We use the best available integrated data, information and performance measures to facilitate student learning, to guide our continuous improvement efforts at the department, division and college-wide levels, and to guide our daily planning and decision-making.

### PLAN STRATEGICALLY FOR THE FUTURE

We plan with the future in mind, using a strategic planning model that allocates limited resources for optimum effectiveness, productivity and efficiency in meeting student and other stakeholder needs.

### RESPOND WITH AGILITY

We effectively respond to opportunities, changes and threats in our environment, continually seeking new or adapted ways to respond to the learning needs of our students and other stakeholders.

### LINK WITH EXTERNAL COMMUNITIES

We foster mission-related linkages and partnerships to address student and stakeholder needs and to contribute to the economic and social well-being of our region.

### MODEL OUR PRINCIPLES AND TIMELESS VALUES

Administration inspires faculty, staff and students also to model the Learning College Principles and the college's timeless institutional values of Quality, Integrity, Service and Caring.

## BUTLER'S LEARNING PACT WITH STUDENTS

As a Learning College, Butler prepares students to be principled, productive individuals who are responsible, involved lifelong learners.

Through the college's Learning PACT, Butler intends to impart knowledge and intellectual concepts to students that Butler's faculty believe every educated person should possess to function successfully in life.

The Butler Learning PACT consists of:

**P**= Personal Development Skills

**A**= Analytical Thinking Skills

**C**= Communication Skills

**T**= Technological Skills

## STUDENTS' WORK SHALL DEMONSTRATE:

### P = PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT SKILLS

Personal management Make smart personal life choices Interpersonal interaction Interact with respect for others in a diverse world

### A = ANALYTICAL THINKING SKILLS

Critical thinking Make informed decisions for challenging situations Problem solving Find workable solutions for real life problems

### C = COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Creation and delivery of messages Write and speak effectively Reception and interpretation of messages Observe, listen and read effectively

### T = TECHNOLOGY SKILLS

General computer use Use computers and the internet proficiently Discipline-specific technology Use specialized technology effectively

## LEARNING OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

The assessment of student learning begins with a commitment to our vision and mission statements and works through the Learning PACT. The Butler Learning PACT lists skills critical to the 21st century workplace used in the college's institution-wide assessment of student achievement of General Education learning outcomes. Learning is a complex, integrated and ongoing process. And, our faculty, staff and administration participate in an ongoing learning assessment program to continually improve teaching and learning.

The assessment of the general education components of a student's coursework is handled through the use of both direct and indirect indicators. Individual departments also conduct learning outcomes assessment on an annual basis. Learning assessment leads to improvement in student learning in that it affects the decisions of the entire educational community.

As one of Butler's Strategic Goals, the Assessment Team and Curriculum Team working with the Deans Council and the faculty are integrating the PACT outcomes into all the courses offered by the college. All courses accepted for General Education degree requirements will develop and document one of the two Analytical Thinking outcomes and two of the following: one of the Personal Development outcomes, one of the Communication outcomes, and/or one of the Technology outcomes. All other courses will develop and document at least one of the PACT outcomes. Faculty assess these outcomes on an annual college wide basis by sampling student work taken from across the college's curriculum.

The complete Butler learning outcomes assessment program is available for perusal in the Office of Assessment ([pspeary@butlercc.edu](mailto:pspeary@butlercc.edu).)