

Definitions Related to Curriculum

for discussion at the March 24, 2016 Curriculum Committee

Curriculum

from Webster's Dictionary – 1. the courses offered by an educational institution, 2. a set of courses constituting an area of specialization.

An online review shows that the term is used in many ways, reflecting how broadly it is applied.

A broad definition sometimes used at NWIC – all of the learning experiences provided for students at the college from the time they enter the College until they leave, whether those learning experiences are within specific credit courses and programs of study or outside of them. Alternately, it can be stated as all of the learning experiences provided for students at the College that contribute to them achieving the intended institutional, program, course, student support, and other student learning outcomes.

Academic Curriculum

the Webster's definition of "curriculum" above specifically addresses academic curriculum. Even within academic curriculum there is a range of specificity from all credit course work to content delivered within a specific programs of study.

Cocurricular

from Webster's Dictionary - being outside of but usually complementing the regular curriculum.

From the draft Cocurricular Policy - Co-curricular activities are consistent with the institution's mission, core themes, programs, and services and are governed appropriately by the Student Executive Board and Student Activities/ Leadership Coordinator. Co-curricular activities are defined as important to Northwest Indian College under Goal 4, Objective 2 under the Strategic Plan 2010-2017: "Demonstrate that co-curricular outcomes and activities support students' growth and development appropriate to a four-year college" (Goal 4, Objective 2).

This definition does not address Indigenous Service Learning, which is normally considered to be cocurricular.

Questions to address:

1. which activities or function are considered to be part of the academic curriculum, which are cocurricular, and which are extracurricular. This will help to define each as they apply at NWIC.

Extracurricular

from Webster's Dictionary - not falling within the scope of a regular curriculum; *specifically* : of or relating to officially or semiofficially approved and usually organized student activities (as athletics) connected with school and usually carrying no academic credit not falling within the scope of a regular curriculum; specifically : of or relating to officially or semiofficially approved and usually organized student activities (as athletics) connected with school and usually carrying no academic credit

For a discussion of some of these terms online see <http://edglossary.org/co-curricular>