

Teaching and Learning Philosophy Faculty In-Service – May 14, 2010

Four groups consisting of faculty and instructional administrators created visual representations of the ideal teaching and learning philosophy of Northwest Indian College. The following lists the membership of each group, a photo of the group's visual representation and the report from the group of the themes represented in the image.

Group Members: Matteo T, Terri P, Kathy S-S and Brian C



The image shows the service area of NWIC - WA and ID

There are purple lines and arrows in the image which represent:

- Connection to natural environment – Places of student
- Multiple lines of communicate – (distance learning, K-12, etc.)
- Connection with self

Depiction of NWIC Student – what outcomes from attending NWIC?

- Student are confident
- They reach for resource
- Walk into NWIC with a heart, brain and sense of self and leave with a larger heart, brain and sense of self (No surgery required for the larger brain!).
- More connected to what is around them - their tribal community, broader world
- We meet students where they are
- It is a cooperative endeavors - moving the students through the process

The image depicts the natural areas – Columbia and Nooksack Rivers, Canoe, Salmon, animals, Puget Sound

The image in the upper right depicts students studying with the lights on in green certified buildings

Group Members: Rose R, Emma N, Mark M and Steve Z



Image shows student going over the fence – asking “what can I get at the college?”

NWIC is Intergenerational, encompasses life outside the college, NWIC has a diversity of students and faculty. Diversity gives multiple perspectives to tap

We are all in 1 boat – working together

Image shows a child with a Frisbee – make education fun

Path for students is not exactly straight to get from here to there

NWIC is about: identify place, culture and relationship

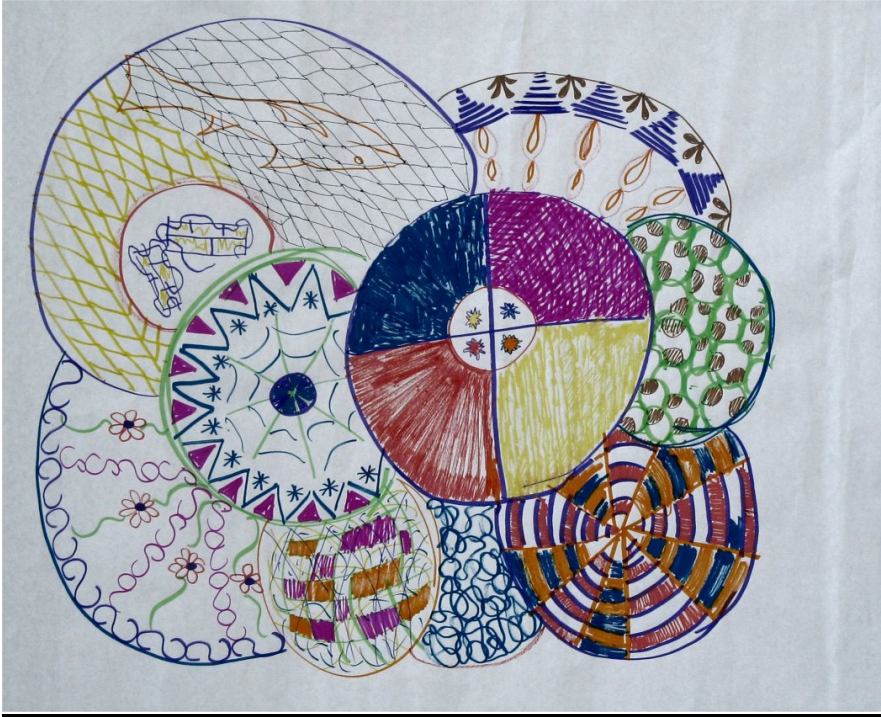
Students leave college, get away and fly wherever they are

NWIC appreciates:

- the natural world
- Wholeness
- identify formation
- cultural Foundation

Ways to access learning

- Intergenerational, culture and grand parents
- Methods - Oral, experiential, book learning
- Service learning
- Place-based
- Multiple way of knowing



Education at NWIC is a kaleidoscope

- It is magic
- It has Glee

While the core does not change the context occurs in many ways - It depends on where student and institution are at any given time

- It is shifting as needed
- Good teaching occurs – magic, faculty, Ignite the Sparkle and the students engage

The image shows the overlapping spheres, many variations of what's happening

When someone walks on campus they see smiles – don't see that in many other places (such as the mall, etc) – This reflects well on what we are doing

NWIC is about community and interconnectedness

We saw the magic occur at the recent career fair



NWIC teaching philosophy is about culture and identity

Native Lummi say- See Culture, be culture, not just read culture

Students are coming here to be culture, to take care of our land

What makes this college special, different from other colleges?

Come here – care about the landscape here

Cattails are cultural – fish, plants and other are cultural

The Lummi words on the image mean: The process of giving and place -

This is a place of giving knowledge

The pyramid represents support staff, faculty, administration caring for students

The airplane represents that there is nothing we can't overcome

Everything is connected

We learn best when we are connected to each other

We teach best when we are connected to our students

Building bridges – there are so many things we can build together