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**IDEA Institute**

1. What is the focus of your Operational Unit improvement plan?

The IDEA Institute provides an umbrella to coordinate and advance Red Rocks’ programs in engineering, innovation and project-based learning. The features of the IDEA Institute are education, experiential learning, engagement and outreach. The IDEA Institute strives to be a leader among community colleges in STEM education for innovation. As the engagement zone, the IDEA Lab is the physical space where faculty and students explore, innovate and create. The focus of this CIP summary is on 1) developing, implementing and communicating a guided pathway in engineering, 2) expanding experiential learning through internships and/or service-learning projects, and 3) increasing engagement in the IDEA Lab, and 4) expanding outreach activities.

Plan for implementing improvements:

1. Collaborate with Guided Pathways team, faculty, and advising to create a Guided Pathway in Engineering Transfer.

2. Communicate Guided Pathway in Engineering to stakeholders in K-12, university partners, and RRCC’s BAS in WQM.

3. Develop an Internship Program for the IDEA Lab with orientation, learning outcomes, deliverables and IDEA Expo.

4. Collaborate with community organizations and/or RRCC’s Service-Learning Program to create STEM-based service-learning projects.

5. Collaborate with IDEA Institute Faculty Fellows to create new initiatives in the IDEA Lab.

6. Develop initiatives to expand recruitment activities in high schools, such as High School Design Challenge and/or Summer Engineering Programs

**QUESTION 2**

What evidence supports the focus of the Operational Unit’s improvement plan?

# Guided Pathways in Engineering approved

# of IDEA Lab student members

# of IDEA Lab student interns

# of students enrolled in EGT 140 Introduction to Design and Engineering Applications (IDEA)

# of EGT 140 students, IDEA Lab members who are retained, graduated and/or transferred

# of MOUs and/or Transfer Agreements articulated with four-year institutions

# of high schools participating in IDEA Institute events

**QUESTION 3**

By fall 2019, how will you know if your Operational Unit’s improvement plan worked? In other words, what are your indicators of success?

IDEA Institute’s measures of success by 2019 include:

1. At least 4 faculty participate in the Innovation Faculty Fellows Program- Measurement: # of faculty participating in Innovation Fellows Program (instrument - institutional documentation)
2. At least 5 high schools participate in IDEA Institute programs - Measurement: # of high schools engaged (instrument – institutional documentation)
3. At least 6 students per semester intern in the IDEA Lab – Measurement: # of student interns (instrument – institutional documentation)
4. At least 5 project-based learning outcomes are created around IDEA activities - Measurement: # of learning outcomes created (instrument – institutional documentation)
5. At least 3 transfer institutions will agree to accept EGT 140 (s) – Measurement: # of transfer agreements (instrument – institutional documentation)
6. 75% of students participating in EGT 140 will transfer or enter the STEM workforce – Measurement: # of students transferring or entering the workforce (instrument – cross-institutional enrollment data; institutional documentation)