Consortia Programs in the VCCS Draft Proposal

2010 Chancellor’s Retreat
Recommendation

- The VCCS should consider new programs being introduced at any community college in light of its potential as a *Consortia Program*. 
Rationale

In light of increasing enrollments and diminishing financial support, consortia arrangements allow a college:

- to offer programs they could not otherwise offer
- share expertise
- share expense
Consortia arrangements within the VCCS will lead to improved **Access** (Achieve 2015 goal) for students at a financial cost much lower than would be found should the student have to leave the region of the receiving community college to participate in an academic program.
Outcomes

- Increased consortia arrangements also hold the promise of benefiting **Workforce Development** (Achieve 2015 goal), providing specialized training for students even if the student’s home region might not have substantial employment opportunities in that field.
Outcomes

- Increased consortia arrangements provide opportunities for more serious attention from funding sources to enhance **Financial Resources** (Achieve 2015 goal). Example: VATNP (Tri-College Nursing) has acquired grant funding from HRSA, DOL, Tobacco Commission, and hospital foundations. We were told the proposals were significantly enhanced by the cooperation of three community colleges.
Benefits…

- YEARLY SAVINGS…
  - Accreditation $5,000
  - Two salaries: $150,000
  - Program supplies, etc $10,000
Benefits...

- YEARLY SAVINGS...
- Three salaries: $250,000
- $500,000 in one time equipment costs
Implementation Strategies

- There are around 20 current consortia arrangements within the VCCS.
  - A survey of individuals involved should be conducted to ascertain SWOT.
  - New programs should be approved only after an analysis of the viability of them joining an existing consortia or creating a new one is conducted.