
Strengths Template

Faculty and staff were asked to note core strengths of Joliet Junior College.

In addition to **noticeable strengths** of Joliet Junior College, the following were noted by faculty and staff at Conversation Day:

- Effective Processes
- Student-focused Change
- Collaboration
- Student & Employer Opinions of Joliet Junior College
- Core Strengths of People

Noticeable Strengths

People's willingness to collaborate

Technology on campus

Physical environment—trees, grass, preserved space

Quality and affordable education; faculty and staff at JJC

Open admissions

Customer-focused; truly satisfying our customers

President who is supportive of departmental activities

A rich history; knowing where we came from to help us know where we are going

Department recruiting

Student access to faculty

Faculty's commitment to developing and maintaining a strong curriculum

Positive focus on students' needs

Staff loyalty to JJC

A well-qualified faculty and staff; incredible credentials; a privilege to work with each other

Wonderful diversity of faculty, staff, students

Freedom and support to be creative

Tuition; variety of offerings;

Classroom size

Collaboration between college and community

Quality and staff of our adjunct faculty

Development of student-based programs and activities

Student activities

Noticeable Strengths (continued)

Availability of programs to public outside of classes: lifelong learning, music

Fitness center and focus on wellness

Want to be better than we are

Support faculty's intellectual activities off-campus so they can improve on-campus

Core values program; college-wide support for innovation

Different programs for intellectual and cultural development

Delicious food!

Unique and wonderful culinary arts program; beautiful, wonderful staff

President of our college is so well-respected inside and outside JJC

Effective Processes

New faculty seminar

Code of conduct process

Evaluating clubs and organization

Course development process

Departmental-based academic advising

New program development; we create it if community or students want it

Priority registration process

Committee system as a whole as a decision-making tool

Human resource hiring process; involvement of faculty and staff

Employee communication

Counseling and financial aid

Facility request form

Effective Processes (continued)

HELP desk process

Placement in developmental classes

Recruitment process; recruiting from high schools

Articulation agreements between hs and college

Evaluation process of tenure-track faculty

Offering the advising class for all faculty

Outstanding library services

Adjunct faculty seminar

Group registration for new students

Online new student and registration process

New process for work orders

Wide range of student support, particularly in tutoring

StAR program

Credit card process

Recognizing and identifying the support needs for second-language students

The dual-admissions process; easy transfer to four-year colleges

Chef-of-the-Day program in culinary arts

Distance education

Successfully assist and process large volume of students rel. to staff/student ratio

Changes and improvements with new Chief of Police

Part-time staff—help; integration

Strong administrative support of student assistance program

Effective Processes (continued)

Counseling support for Distance Education

Food service credit card process

Cooperative agreement with other community colleges; in district rates for particular programs

International students; benefit of diversity and culture

High quality of our secretarial staff—hiring process

Processing of payments at Service Center

Credit card system; elimination of purchase order

Collective bargaining

Services of the Automotive Program

Tech HELP desk

Project Achieve services

High quality of physical plant services

Process of staying connected with alumni and foundation

Registration process; room reservation process

Process of dealing with non-traditional students: e.g., welfare-to-work

Processing payroll

Excellent job that IET does with serving industry

Process which our Academic Vice President has implemented moving people from grant-funded to hard money

Tenure process is clear and supported

Student-focused Change

Priority registration

Changes in the web site

Changes in Blackboard and Distance Education

Changes in the COLLEAGUE computer system

Changes with time and growth with human resources and e campuses

Changes in accessing e-mail password for students

Just-in-time math tutors in E Concourse

Online voting for student trustee

Incentives to attract full-time faculty to extended

Job List

Beverage grant funding—North Campus

Project Achieve for NC

Better handicapped accessibility

Arming of Campus Police

New Web page started this week

Joined Fast Track Consortium

New Writing and Math Center in C-Building

Work orders online

Dual-admissions program with 4-year institutions

Took paper off the windows of Admissions Office!

Advisor training for academic advisors

Career resource pack for Women's Center

Student-focused Change (continued)

Dollar menu

Real online application for students

More student activities at North Campus

Collaboration

Cross-discipline curriculum development

Four-year degrees offered on our campus

New student group registration

Governors' State University collaboration at LWE site

Articulation agreements with cooperating high schools

Employee recognition

Technical Department—collaborative brochure for department

Collaborative training with District 86

Occupational programs collaborating with IET

Registration and admissions—help to catch up

Foundation and natural areas for restoration of arboretum

Police department and Student Services

Community-based and faith-based organizations

Increased course offerings and student and academic support

Business associations

Outside organizations to certify students in house

Service center, financial aid, IET

Faculty, computer services, and StAR for student success

Collaboration (continued)

Fast track consortium

ASQ certification exams

Administration and faculty for nontraditional course offerings; times and other campuses

Union contracts

Academics and Early Childhood Center

Faculty, staff, administrators for out-of-classroom experiences

Fine Arts Productions

CIOS, Adult and Family Services; GSD and ESL services to those students

Private sector-build and support new degree programs

Staff and faculty for coalition to reduce under-age drinking

Many departments and special needs students from area high schools

Student & Employer Opinions of Joliet Junior College

Really like the open admissions policy

Appreciate real-world experience of our faculty

Excellent faculty and support services

North Campus—process of registration

Affordability of our services to community

Convenience of our satellite campuses

Wide array of tutoring services

Excellence of our Early Childhood Development Center

We are flexible (employers)

Excellent Culinary Arts Department

Student & Employer Opinions of Joliet Junior College (continued)

Art Gallery

Free food and entertainment provided by student activity fee

Students feel more valued and appreciated at NC

Students feel more prepared at transfer schools

Hiring of bilingual staffing; employers looking to the future for innovative programs

Better prepared student going into workforce

Affordable, convenient child care

Receive personalized academic training and assistance

Parking at North Campus

Vet Tech program

Second graduation ceremony

Core Strengths of People

Faculty

Diversity of faculty

Knowledgeable and dedicated

Willing to sub; quality of instruction in noncredit training

Teaching oriented rather than research-oriented

Being able to access faculty: phone, email

Faculty's initiative to provide excellence

Committed to student success in learning

Approachable to students and rest of community on campus

The ability to develop training for B & I short turnaround

Core Strengths of People (continued)

Continuous effort at retraining; keeping up-to-date

High degree of ability

Enthusiasm for subject matter conveyed to students

Life experience of the faculty

Willingness to collaborate with support staff

Committed to Interest-based bargaining

Support and Physical Plant Staff

Patience

Caring and people-oriented

“We can do that” attitude

Putting up with “fill in the blank”

Taking the initiative before we even ask

Dependability

Dedication to getting the job done

Efficient and professional

Very creative responses to need; really doing research to solve physical problems

Overall creativity

Very knowledgeable about many aspects of college

Responsiveness

Friendliness

Helpful; with use of computers, everything at fingertips

Genuine interest in student development

Core Strengths of People (continued)

Personal pride in areas—custodial staff

Concern for the educational environment

Administrators

Community involvement

Availability to faculty, students, staff

Empowerment of North Campus support staff

They don't micro-manage

Focus on helping people improve their ability to do their jobs

Dedication to interest-based bargaining

Visibility to everyone on campus

Willing to get to know the employee on a first-name basis

Willingness of Dr. Harderson to be a student at a night class to help solve problem

Openness; lack of false class distinctions

They're approachable

JD's open door policy

Support of new program development

Always keeping the student in mind when making decisions

Making available monetary and other resources to edify staff, encourage training, edify students