

## Guiding Principles for Strategic Decision Making

1. Supporting and enhancing student success and services to students must be our top priority—we value **STUDENTS AND STUDENT SUCCESS**. The critical questions to be asked are: Will this decision or action directly benefit or harm students and student learning? If yes, how?
2. Improving and protecting the core activities of teaching and learning should also be a high priority of ours—we value **EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AND LEARNING**. The critical questions to be asked are: How essential is this (initiative, program, expenditure, assignment) to academic excellence? What impact will this decision have on the college's core activities, i.e., instruction and student learning?
3. We must develop a sustainable competitive advantage for MCC—we value **STRATEGIC INVESTMENT** in MCC's future viability. The critical questions to be asked are: What long term, strategic impact will this decision or action have on MCC? What specific goals does this (initiative, program, expenditure, assignment) address in the college's Strategic Plan?
4. To the greatest extent possible, we will utilize data to inform decision making—we value **EVIDENCE-BASED DECISION MAKING**. The critical questions to be asked are: Is this decision supported by evidence? Are there verifiable data to support this conclusion?
5. We need to improve operational efficiency and effectiveness by sharing resources—we value **COLLABORATION** across departments and programs within the college. The critical questions to be asked are: Does this initiative promote collaboration and resources sharing? Does this program benefit one program or multiple programs or departments within the college?