

The Atlantic Center for Learning Communities (ACLC)

Mission Statement

The Atlantic Center for Learning Communities (ACLC) is a consortium of colleges/universities committed to supporting institutions in the region who are developing learning community initiatives. By “learning community” we mean: multi- or inter-disciplinary curricular course structures that bring faculty and students together to explore over-arching themes; a “space” that includes curriculum innovation, active and engaging pedagogies, assessment, and institutional change.

We are a collaborative leadership network dedicated to enriching discussion about innovative, learner-centered pedagogies, and the professional development that supports them, across campuses and within individual campuses. The Center offers: resource consulting, open houses that showcase learning communities practice, on-campus site visits, and retreats for faculty/administration/campus teams interested in deepening their understanding of learning communities, related pedagogies and assessment.

Goals:

- **to promote the new research about learning communities**
- **to support “faculty development” on college campuses**
- **to foster diverse communities**
- **to support multiple forms of scholarship**
- **to promote student access, student learning, and student success**
- **to have a position impact upon teaching and learning**
- **to encourage activities that restructure the curriculum**
- **to encourage collaboration among individual faculty and among institutions.**
- **to help colleges develop low cost implementation strategies for innovation and for achieving institutional outcomes**
- **to share what works – brainstorm change strategies through an intellectual network**

ACLC is in the process of building a website and has offered open houses for learning communities for the last two years. The next Open House will be in October 2004. We are also planning summer workshops. This information will be updated on this website. You may also check the website of the National Learning Communities Project. See link on this overview page.