

## **Executive Summary**

### **Project 6: Flexible, Accelerated, and Culturally Responsive Schedule Options for Courses and Programs for Century College**

#### **Team Members:**

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#### **Team Charge:**

Research and develop a summary of best practices from within MnSCU or other states and regions featuring models that support flexible and accelerated programming. Based on identified best practices and consideration of current operational parameters, work through the logistics to create a toolbox for flexible programming including; recommendations for a year-long schedule, length of course program, and ideas regarding on-campus and online courses to target for implementation.

#### **Recommendations:**

- To build successful and structural accelerated learning at Century College, the college must intentionally, actively, and directly engage all of its community members from its students, employees, business and industry partners, and other organizations to begin the process of identifying their student demographics and their relative needs and the viability of moving forward with targeted and direct accelerated learning with a combination of different but pertinent course designs, locations, and pedagogies.
- Provide professional development for all faculty and staff involved in the delivery of any non-standard mode class.
- Provide an orientation for students for each of the non-standard delivery modes.
- Develop a robust credit for prior learning option for students.
- Begin with a smaller scale pilot in which select programs/departments begin offering accelerated and online courses.
- For all initiatives be sure to include systematic and regular assessment, evaluation, and continuous improvement.
- This means that accelerated learning at the community college is no longer an option; it is mandatory, if it has not already, and standard part of college curriculum and design for all educational institutions and their programs, especially post-secondary institutions.