Overview

Gig Harbor Campus Needs
The present Gig Harbor campus is stretched beyond capacity and unable to accommodate projected enrollment growth based on analysis of campus enrollment trends and community growth projections.

Currently, the Gig Harbor Campus serves 210 – 240 FTE (both state and contract) per quarter in its credit classes and 500-600 enrollments per quarter in non-credit classes. The 13,000 square foot building on ten acres was opened in 1995 and has seen significant growth in the past 5 years.

The population in the service area is expected to continue to grow through the year 2020, per demographic data, projections and estimates compiled by consultants for Franciscan Health Services and for the Peninsula School District. Projections of industry growth by clusters (compiled as a part of a Gig Harbor Peninsula Chamber of Commerce study on regional economic development) indicate that tourism/hospitality, service and retail, health and medical and biomedical are the strongest clusters.

It is also expected that the completion of construction of the Narrows Bridge with charging of tolls will place an increase in the demand for college classes at the campus on the west side of the bridge. Presently, students are fairly comfortable taking classes in both Gig Harbor and on the Tacoma campus.

See Appendix D for more information about planning for Gig Harbor Campus growth.

Proposed solution
The construction of a new building of 25,000 square feet, and the remodeling of the existing 13,000 square foot building will allow TCC to continue to provide access to comprehensive educational programming to meet the personal and professional needs of the residents and businesses on the Gig Harbor Peninsula and surrounding regions into the future.

Expansion of the physical facilities in Gig Harbor will allow for expansion of class offerings in existing programs, the addition of new programs and the provision of student support services necessary for student success. The proposal supports the College Strategic Planning initiatives to produce learning; provide student support; meet the needs of our diverse population; partner strategically with local community organizations, businesses and schools; and provide a learning environment that fosters excellence, innovation and student success.

In addition to classrooms, the new building (or new addition) and renovation of existing building will provide offices for faculty and space for student advising and support services, to meet requirements outlined on the 2004 Accreditation visit summary report.
History of the proposed project
The proposed project is in the preliminary analysis and discussion phase. It has been apparent for the past several years that enrollments have reached close to the capacity of the present Gig Harbor campus building. In addition, the original building wasn’t build to consider significant credit enrollments requiring a wide-range of student support services. It was obviously planned to be a part-time commuter campus; enrollment trends have shown an increase in full time students who need more services on-site than the existing building can accommodate.

Community growth within the past few years has exceeded original expectations. A new, retail complex in north Gig Harbor will continue to expand, bringing in large stores such as Costco. A certificate of need for an 80 – 120 bed hospital in the same area has also been approved, with anticipation of opening in several years. Planned medical office complexes are expected to be constructed in the same area. This will create new jobs in a wide range of nursing and allied health occupations.

Public transportation is lacking in the peninsula region. Many Gig Harbor-area students presently drive to the Tacoma campus if classes needed aren’t available at the Gig Harbor campus. Congestion on Highway 16 continues to increase, due to the bottleneck of the Tacoma Narrows Bridge and present construction activities related to a new bridge which will charge tolls when opened. A positive factor in the difficult transportation issue is the planned Pierce Transit bus stop and pedestrian overpass with park-and-ride space within close walking distance to the Gig Harbor campus.

Programs addressed by this project
- Additional academic transfer classes to meet distribution requirements and electives for Associate in Arts and Sciences and Associate in Business transfer degrees
- Additional classes to meet prerequisites for a variety of professional-technical degrees and certificates, particularly in the health occupations
- Expansion of developmental class sections in reading, writing and math
- Expansion of Business Lab classes to provide core for Office Professional degree and related certificates
- Addition of core classes in Information Technology
- Expansion of Medical Office Professional programs, adding a Medical Assistant (back office) track and Phlebotomy certificate
- Addition of a Nursing Assistant program
- Addition of class sections in the Associate Degree Nursing program
- General classroom space to meet community demand for continuing education classes and programs (professional CE, contract training, computer training, personal enrichment, etc.)
- Space and offices for student services (assessment, advising, counseling, career development, assistive technology and access services, etc.). New space or remodeled space is needed to provide these services for not only the current student FTEs, but the new ones generated by space (and program) expansion.
- Offices for faculty and program coordinators, which were not included in the design of the existing building. New space or remodeled space must create offices to accommodate both adjunct and full time faculty and program chairs, as well as coordinators of programs such as Fresh Start, Adult Literacy, Continuing Education, etc.
- Creation of student learning spaces, organized and arranged to provide for small group conversations and hands-on activities, as well as traditional “lecture” style classes.
Scope and Project Description

1. Remodel existing building:
   - Expand bookstore space
   - Create two offices and a storage closet in the open space between reception and Rm. 110
   - Convert Rm. 109 into a faculty/staff lounge
   - Create 2-3 offices and a small waiting area out of Rm. 108 for Student Services (if feasible)
   - Add security features and barcode scanning capability to library/LRC

2. Construct a New 25,000+ square foot building southeast of existing building (could be added on to existing building):
   - 2 science labs (chemistry and anatomy/phys/biology)
   - 4 general classrooms – 35-45 capacity
   - 1 small classroom – 20-25 capacity
   - Art studio with ceramics equipment
   - One medium-sized conference room with Smart Board
   - 6 - 8 faculty offices
   - 4 offices for program coordinators
   - A medical simulations lab
   - Restrooms
   - Small reception/office area (for faculty support)
   - Student eating area with food services and espresso/latte cart (suggest an atrium/internet café that connects the existing building with the new building)
   - Wireless and Smart Boards and state of the art technology
   - Storage space for equipment, computers, extra chairs, etc.
   - Large, Multipurpose room (performing arts space, auditorium, large classroom)

3. Additional Expansion Needs and Considerations:
   - Adequate parking to accommodate increase in FTEs
   - Review capabilities of existing infrastructure, i.e. septic & drainfield, runoff drainage, ingress/egress, etc.
   - Build new building with expansion (upward?) capabilities
   - State of the art technology, wireless hubs, large, video flat screens; multimedia equipped classrooms; interactive TV and conferencing capabilities
   - Furniture designed to allow interactive and small group learning activities

Why is this solution important? (Student benefits, program related benefits, reduction of operating cost, etc.)
Facility expansion is important in order to continue to meet growth needs and community demands for accessible and comprehensive higher education programs for the residents, businesses and workforce in Pierce County west of the Tacoma Narrows Bridge.

It is necessary to construct science labs and a medical technology simulations lab to provide facilities adequate to train students in the high-demand health technology occupations.
It is important to provide faculty offices if we are to meet the 2004 Accreditation recommendation of improving our full-time to part-time faculty ratio; presently the campus only has one, temporary full-time faculty member and 25+ adjunct faculty (and NO faculty offices).

It is necessary to have space for advising and student services, not present in the existing building, to meet the Accreditation requirements of improving advising to students and to implement the new Advising Model developed and implemented on the main campus.

**Increased FTE students accommodated by this project**

The addition of 25,000 square feet of new space plus renovation of the existing 13,000 square foot building would provide capacity to increase enrollments by 160 FTEs. The expansion should accommodate program expansion and/or new programming as follows:

- Additional academic transfer classes to meet distribution requirements and electives for Associate in Arts and Sciences and Associate in Business transfer degrees – 65 FTEs per quarter.

- Additional classes to meet prerequisites for a variety of professional-technical degrees and certificates, particularly in the health occupations – 20 FTEs per quarter

- Expansion of developmental class sections in reading, writing and math – 15 FTEs per quarter

- Expansion of Business Lab classes to provide core for Office Professional degree and related certificates – 10 FTEs per quarter

- Addition of core classes in Information Technology – 10 FTEs per quarter

- Expansion of Medical Office Professional programs, adding a Medical Assistant (back office) track and Phlebotomy certificate – 20 FTEs per quarter

- Addition of a Nursing Assistant program – 5 FTEs per quarter

- Addition of class sections in the Associate Degree Nursing program – 15 FTEs per quarter