Questions about Institution Set Standards (ISS) asked by the ACCJC Visiting Team

- How are ISS used at ARC?
- How are ISS used to improve student achievement and student learning?
- How are ISS defined at ARC? Has there been broad dialogue in defining ISS at ARC?
- How are ISS discussed, shared across the college at ARC?
- If ARC falls below a particular ISS, what process is in place for taking action?
- How are ISS integrated into program review?
- How are ISS integrated into planning processes?
- How are ISS used in informing how the college is achieving its stated mission?

Institution Set Standards (ISS)
Data Inquiry Group, 12/1/2015
Office of Institutional Research

College Recommendation 1 from ACCJC: Expand efforts to establish, discuss, and respond to ***institution-set standards*** within our participatory governance environment in order to meet accreditation standards.

What are Institution Set Standards (ISS)?
Where did they come from?

ISS are <u>minimal acceptable standards</u> such that falling below them should trigger actions to improve student success

They are **not** aspirational goals or targets

US Department of Education required ACCJC to assure that college's assess quality. ISS are one way that ACCJC is having college's assess quality

"...federal regulations require institutions to set standards for student achievement for <u>programs</u> and <u>institutions</u>...to assess their own performance against those standards" (*ACCJC Newsletter, 2013*).

ISS are "what the institution has determined is acceptable given its mission" (*Letter to Foothill College 8/17/2015 explaining the role of Institution Set Standards*).

What does ARC need to do?

1. Formally adopt a comprehensive list of ISS that inform how the college is achieving its stated mission

2. Formally adopt a process for responding to results that fall below ISS that integrates ISS into our existing cycle of ongoing evaluation, resource allocation, planning, & review

3. Formally revise the ISS metric such that it accurately reflects a minimum acceptable standard

4. Communicate the ISS to all constituent groups

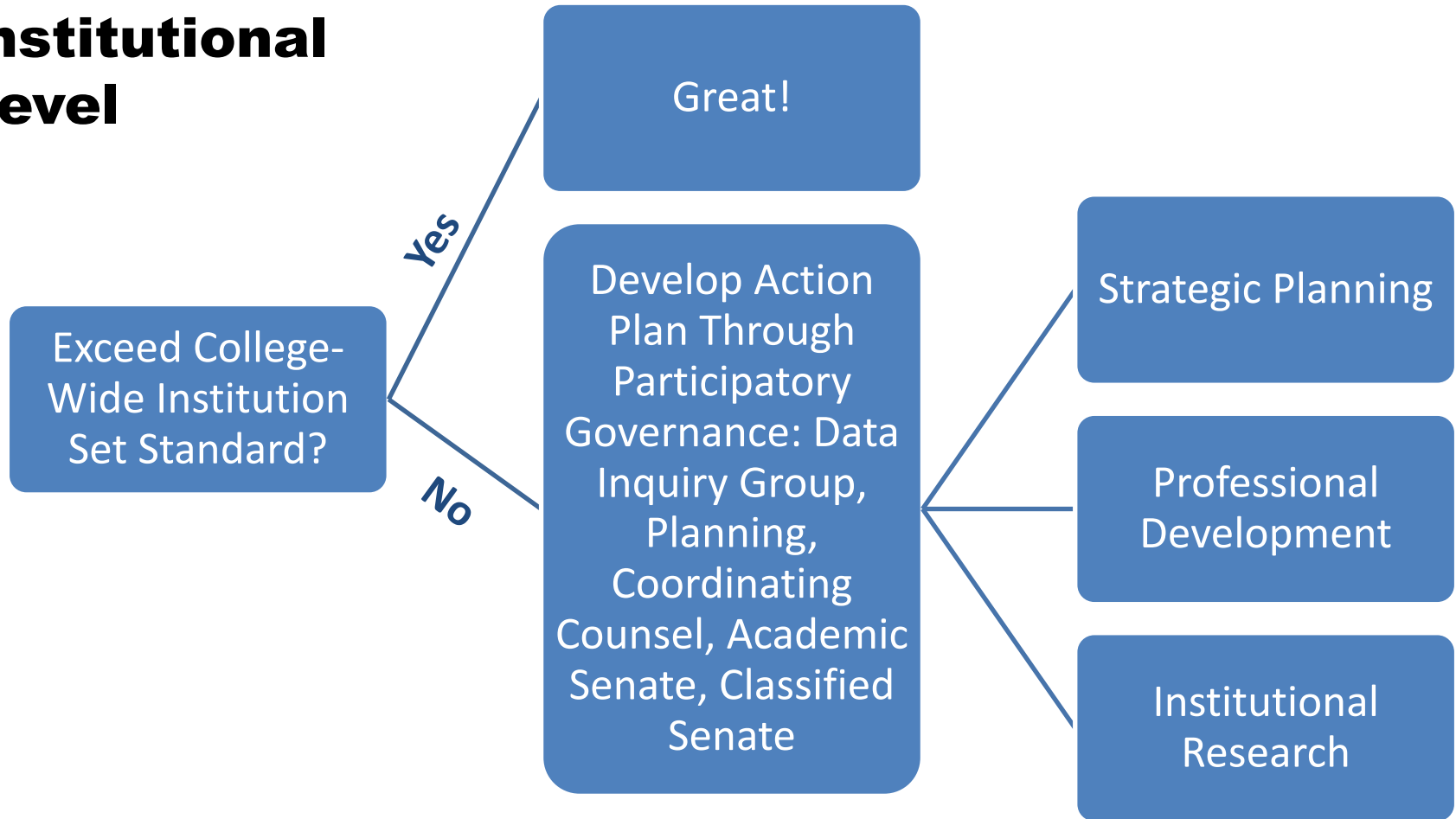5. Formally adopt a process to evaluate how ISS are working at ARC

1. Formally adopt ISS that inform how the college is achieving its stated mission: … "successfully accomplish learning in…"

- Career and Technical Education (course success rate, CTE job placement rates, CTE job licensure rates, Certificates)
- Developmental Education (none)
- General Education (course success rate, Degrees)
- Lower division post-secondary education (course success rate, Transfers)

Draft Proposal #1: ISS for developmental education to be developed by the Basic Skills Committee by End of Spring 2016
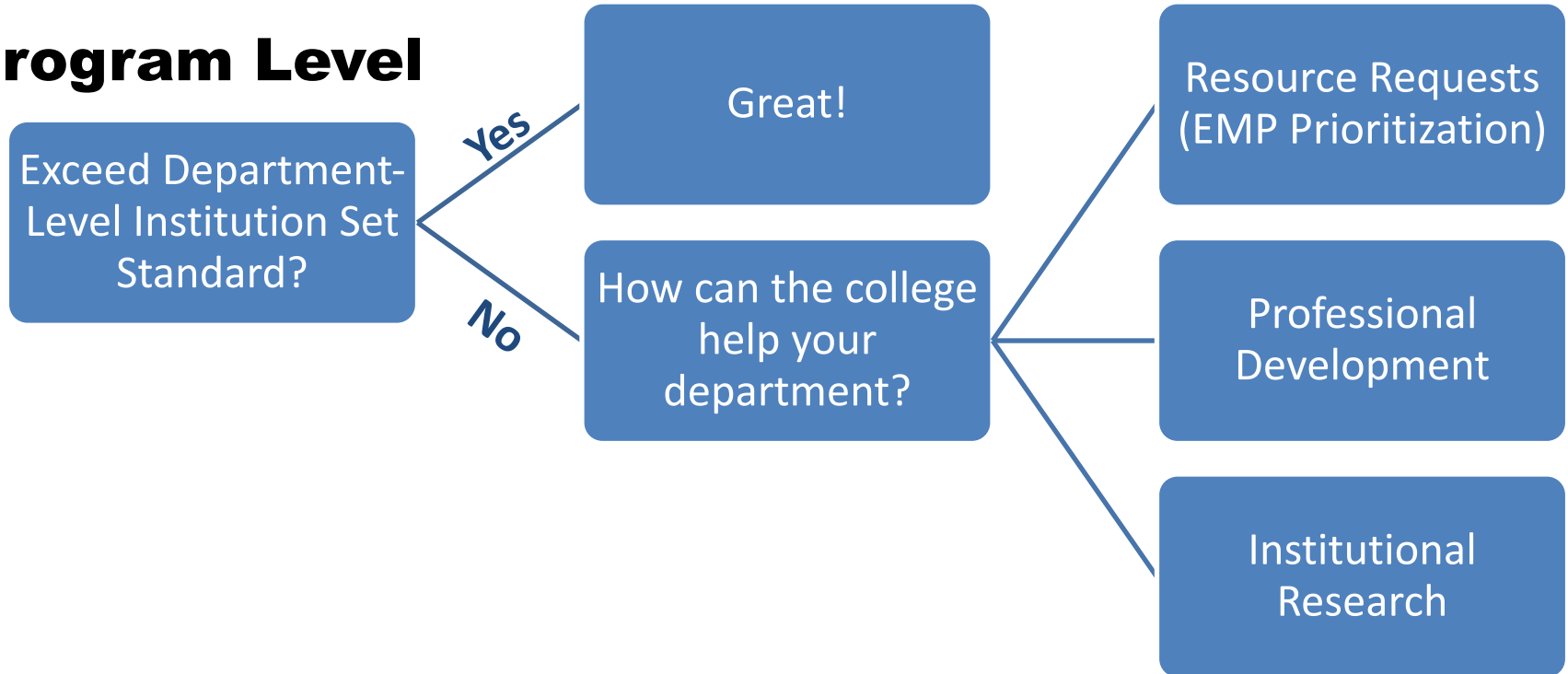
2. Formally adopt a process for responding to results that fall below ISS that integrates ISS into our existing cycle of ongoing evaluation, resource allocation, planning, & review

Institutional Level

Exceed College-Wide Institution Set Standard?

Yes → Great!

No → Develop Action Plan Through Participatory Governance: Data Inquiry Group, Planning, Coordinating Counsel, Academic Senate, Classified Senate

Strategic Planning

Professional Development

Institutional Research

2. Formally adopt a process for responding to results that fall below ISS that integrates ISS into our existing cycle of ongoing evaluation, resource allocation, planning, & review continued...

Program Level

Draft Proposal #2: Integrate ISS into EMP, Program Review and Professional Development

3. Formally revise the ISS metric such that it accurately reflects a minimum acceptable standard

- An average is not an appropriate minimum standard
- A district policy change in Summer 2012 has affected course success rates downward. As a result, the metric should use data from fall 2012 onward

An appropriate minimum standard should take into account random year to year variation. It should also be clearly evident, without statistical validation, that results falling below the standard indicate achievement that has decreased beyond random variation.

The Office of Institutional Research conducted a series of analyses to determine whether the 95% Confidence Interval Lower Limit based on the previous 3 years (fall 2012 onward) would effectively serve as an appropriate metric for setting the ISS. *(similar metric used by other colleges)*

3. Formally adopt an appropriate metric for ISS that is defined as the minimum acceptable standard continued...

Sample of Simulation data using the 95% Confidence Interval Lower Limit based on the average of the previous 3 years as the ISS, conducted at the departmental level

Disciplines (Not including Summer)	Year 1 - (2008 - 2009)	Year 2 - (2009 - 2010)	Year 3 - (2010 - 2011)	3 Year Average	Standard Deviation	Target Year - (2011 - 2012)	95% Confidence Interval Lower Limit	Meets Institution Set Standard
Discipline 24	56.1% (N=1407)	53.6% (N=1482)	59.0% (N=1411)	56.20%	2.70%	55.8% (N=1343)	49.50%	Yes
Discipline 25	74.9% (N=958)	78.6% (N=1025)	79.8% (N=918)	77.80%	2.60%	75.3% (N=834)	71.50%	Yes
Discipline 26	67.0% (N=5872)	67.4% (N=5802)	68.9% (N=5522)	67.70%	1.00%	70.6% (N=5233)	65.30%	Yes
Discipline 27	68.1% (N=5316)	71.2% (N=5287)	76.1% (N=4754)	71.80%	4.00%	76.5% (N=4858)	61.80%	Yes
Discipline 28	66.6% (N=580)	63.3% (N=479)	59.3% (N=420)	63.00%	3.60%	**49.4% (N=330)**	54.00%	No
Discipline 29	71.4% (N=1061)	66.2% (N=1273)	67.6% (N=1289)	68.40%	2.70%	70.6% (N=1276)	61.70%	Yes

Conclusion: This revised metric works to effectively identify areas of improvement where resources, professional development, and institutional research can be directed

Draft Proposal #3: Revise the metric for setting the ISS to the 95% Confidence Interval Lower Limit based on the average of the previous 3 years

4. Communicate the ISS to all constituent groups

Draft Proposal #4: Adopt a regular schedule for communication of ISS results and the development of resulting action plans.

- **DIG**
- **PCC**
- **Deans Meetings**
- **Academic Senate**
- **Classified Senate**

- **Results discussed in March-May**
- **Action Plans discussed and developed in September-November**

5. Formally adopt a process to evaluate how ISS are working at ARC

Draft Proposal #5: Establish a regular cycle of evaluation to determine the appropriateness and effectiveness of ISS at ARC

- ISS metric evaluated annually (January-February)
- Overall process evaluated every 3 years (2016,2019,2022)

Summary of Draft Proposals Revisiting ISS at ARC

Draft Proposal #1: ISS for developmental education to be developed by the Basic Skills Committee by End of Spring 2016

Draft Proposal #2: Integrate ISS into EMP, Program Review and Professional Development

Draft Proposal #3: Revise the metric for setting the ISS to the 95% Confidence Interval Lower Limit based on the average of the previous 3 years

Draft Proposal #4: Adopt a regular schedule for communication of ISS results and the development of resulting action plans.

Draft Proposal #5: Establish a regular cycle of evaluation to determine the appropriateness and effectiveness of ISS at ARC