Maine is IT! at SMCC

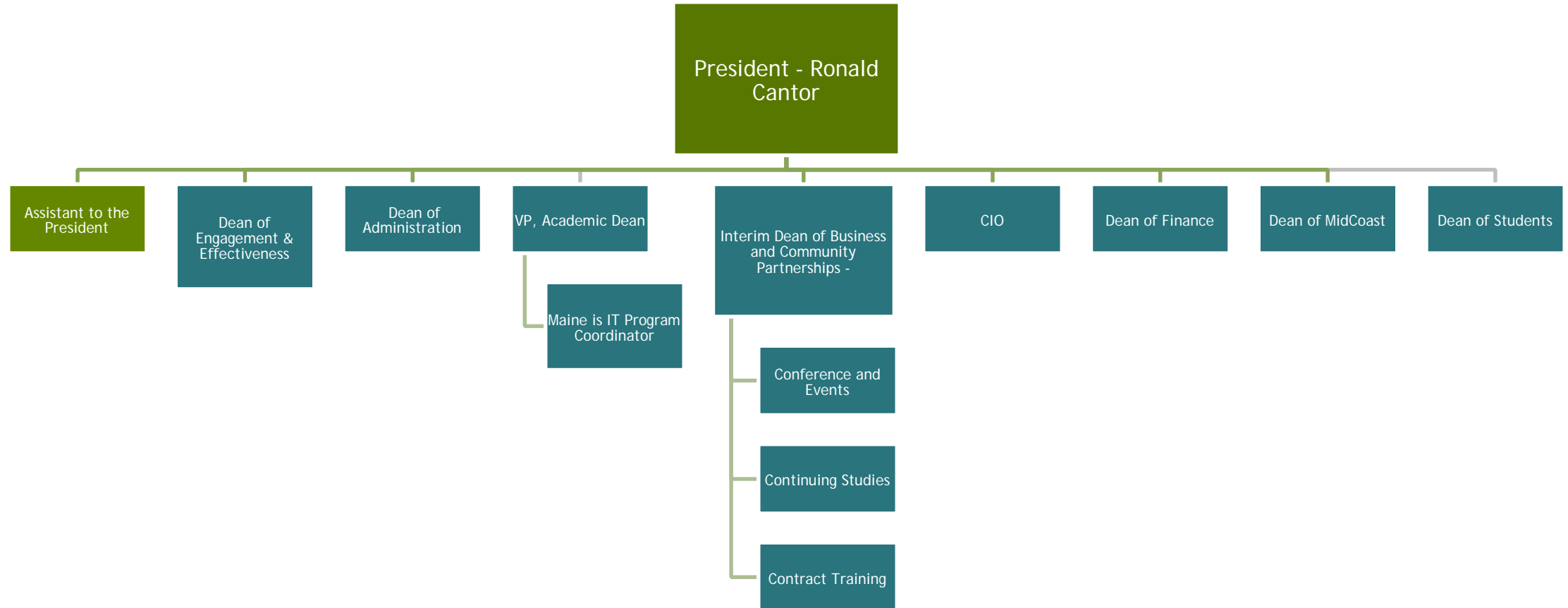# Grant Playbook for 2013 -2017

Our Mission

Southern Maine Community College transforms lives and communities through education and training. We welcome, prepare and inspire all to learn, succeed and lead.

Our Strategic Directions

From the President's address at Convocation 2014-2015

- Improve Student Success
- Engage with Students and the Community
- Improve and expand the campus facilities
- Ensure consistent focus on the four broad measures of the college's health:
- Mission Identity
- Academic Integrity
- Budget and Fiscal Integrity
- Organizational Integrity

How We are Organized

Maine is IT! Role

How do Maine is IT! initiatives support the implementation of the college's mission and strategic directions?

Grant Initiatives seek to:

- Increase student success outcomes

- Equip students and faculty with curricula, equipment and advising resources aligned with IT Sector business needs

- Broaden access to IT related degree programs and certifications

Our Charter Statement

The Maine is IT! program enhances the college's efforts to increase student graduation rates and strengthens the college's connections to employers by preparing students to meet current and future hiring needs.

By the end of the grant, the college will have enrolled 650 students in IT Sector degree programs and invested $3,164,830 in sustainable initiatives that improve student success and increase the IT Sector talent pool.

What Guides Our Work

Maine is IT! initiatives are guided by the following principles:

- All investments must be sustainable

- Student access to degree programs will be increased

- Advising activities strengthen existing strategies and test new initiatives

- Curriculum development will be market-driven and responsive to local employer demand

- Student connections to the IT Sector and advanced degree programs will be enhanced

- Program decisions will be informed by student and labor market data

Our Goals

1. All initiatives will be launched with sustainability in the design
2. Classrooms and equipment will be updated to meet market-demand by Fall 2014
3. Enhanced student advising strategies will be implemented that increase persistence and graduation rates by Fall 2014
4. Business engagement with the degree programs will be strengthened by Spring 2015
5. New IT related degree program will be created by Fall 2014
6. Existing IT degree programs will be reviewed and enhanced to meet employer-driven expectations by Fall 2015
7. Non-credit and credit for prior learning pathways will be fully implemented by Fall 2016
8. Expanded access initiatives (online courses and accelerated remediation) will be in place by Spring 2017.

How We Do Our Work

<u>All initiatives will be launched with sustainability in the design</u>

The grant activities and staff will be integrated with existing college operations and initiatives:

- The program coordinator will be a member of the academic team
- The navigator will be part of the Advising Office
- The lab manager will be part of the IT department
- Faculty will be in the Maine is IT! program departments
- Other staff will be part of existing departments as appropriate
- Advising initiatives will be part of the overall student success strategy
- Expanded course offerings will be market-driven

How We Do Our Work

Classrooms and equipment will be updated to meet market-demand by Fall 2014

- The renovation design will include student success strategies
- The program advisory board will provide input on curriculum design which will inform classroom design and equipment purchases

Enhanced student advising strategies will be implemented that increase persistence and graduation rates by Fall 2014

How We Do Our Work

- The navigator will work under the supervision of the Advising Office and utilize the college's cohort advising model

- Faculty will be supported and trained in the college's advising strategies

- An advising platform will be developed

- The navigator will leverage data from the Institutional Review team to inform advising strategies

<u>Business engagement with the degree programs will be strengthened by Spring 2015</u>

How We Do Our Work

- The role of businesses on the program advisory board will be strengthened

- Labor market data will be shared with faculty and the program advisory board

- Businesses will be supported to meet directly with faculty and students and to conduct targeted recruitment

  <u>New IT related degree program will be created by Fall 2014</u>

How We Do Our Work

- Based on market demand, the college will create a new degree program in Computer Information Security.

- The new department will follow college and system policies for creation.

Existing IT degree programs will be reviewed and enhanced to meet employer-driven expectations by Fall 2015

Using the college's program review process, each of the degree programs will be reviewed for:

How We Do Our Work

- Alignment with BS/BA level programs for transfer
- Relevance to meet hiring needs of area employers
- Preparation for students to obtain employment and continue education as needed in the IT Sector

<u>Non-credit and credit for prior learning pathways will be fully implemented by Fall 2016</u>

- Coordinate entry-level certifications and trainings, e.g., spreadsheet and A+, with Business and Community Development division

How We Do Our Work

- Align courses with most in-demand certifications to enable students to graduate with both a degree and certifications
- Create crosswalk of certifications and work experience with credit courses

Expanded access initiatives (online courses and accelerated remediation) will be in place by Spring 2017

- Strengthen relationship and connection to Workforce System (MDOL, LWIB, CareerCenter and providers)
- Offer more courses online

How We Do Our Work

- Offer more accelerated course options to shorten the time to graduation for students who need remediation

- Expand the options for entering students to earn credit prior learning

- Increase supports to enable students to graduate on schedule

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