

I'd like to share with you two things about Nepean Community College.

Its Why and How.

From Day 1 Nepean Community College has been about connection and relationship.

The mission it set in 1988 was about putting people who know in touch with people who want to know and this has held up over 30 years.

This is important because people change and course content changes over time but the central process remains.

In 1988 the College was incorporated as Nepean Community College.

That name was chosen to bind its identity to communities not just individual consumers of education products.

The College's essential function has been and continues to be to connect teachers and learners in those communities.





Through this the College's prime goal has been to go beyond being a retailer of education and training products to being an instrument of change and community development

In some cases on a large scale, such as the delivering the Digital Hub and Digital Enterprise programs for the Commonwealth Dep. Communications, and in others through individual lives, small businesses or organisations that makeup the fabric of community.

One other characteristic of the College is that is it is organic in its approach reaching out and developing life long, life wide, learning communities where ever it finds a need.





My favourite analogy is that of a tree. Where Schools, TAFE and Universities provide the visible trunk and branches. Nepean Community College is the root system vital for growth and change in the community. The unfortunate part of this analogy is that as root we can expect to feed compost !





So How do we work ?

For the College education is about change and growth which has distinct implications for how the College goes about its business.

We think of change as a process that begins with awareness of the possibility of learning and passes through known stages of research, decision, action, experience and completion.







Our vision is to continuously refine and develop our capacity to identify, understand and respond to the learning needs of the communities we serve and to do so through creating connection between people.

Importantly we are seeking to move beyond transactional relationships defined by referrals between services to collaborative service delivery that makes invisible the boundaries between the College and the organisations it engages with from the view point of the recipients of services.

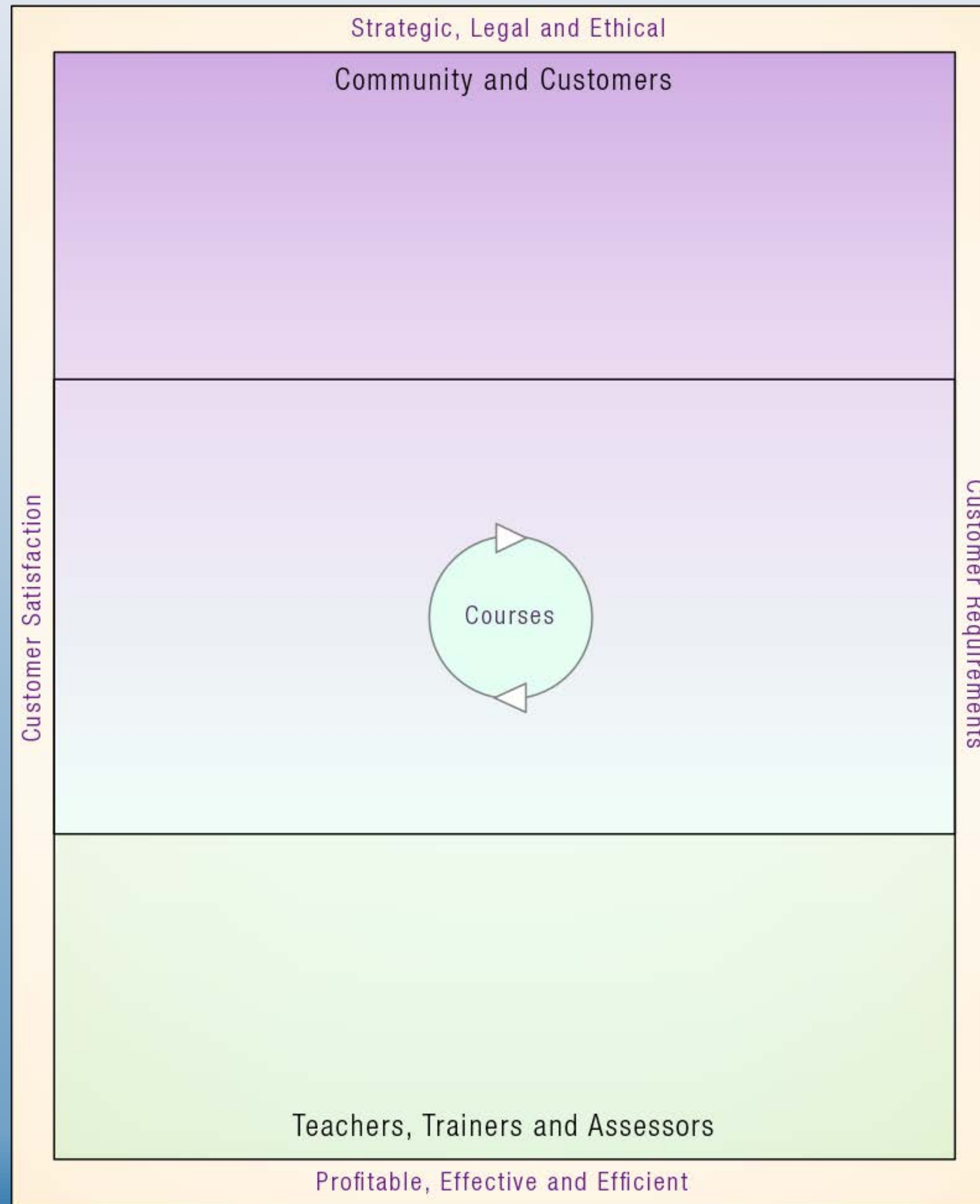




We work to provide for multiple entry points for people and organisations to experience education, to grow and develop.

From the common catalogue we all know to collaborations with business or community service providers.

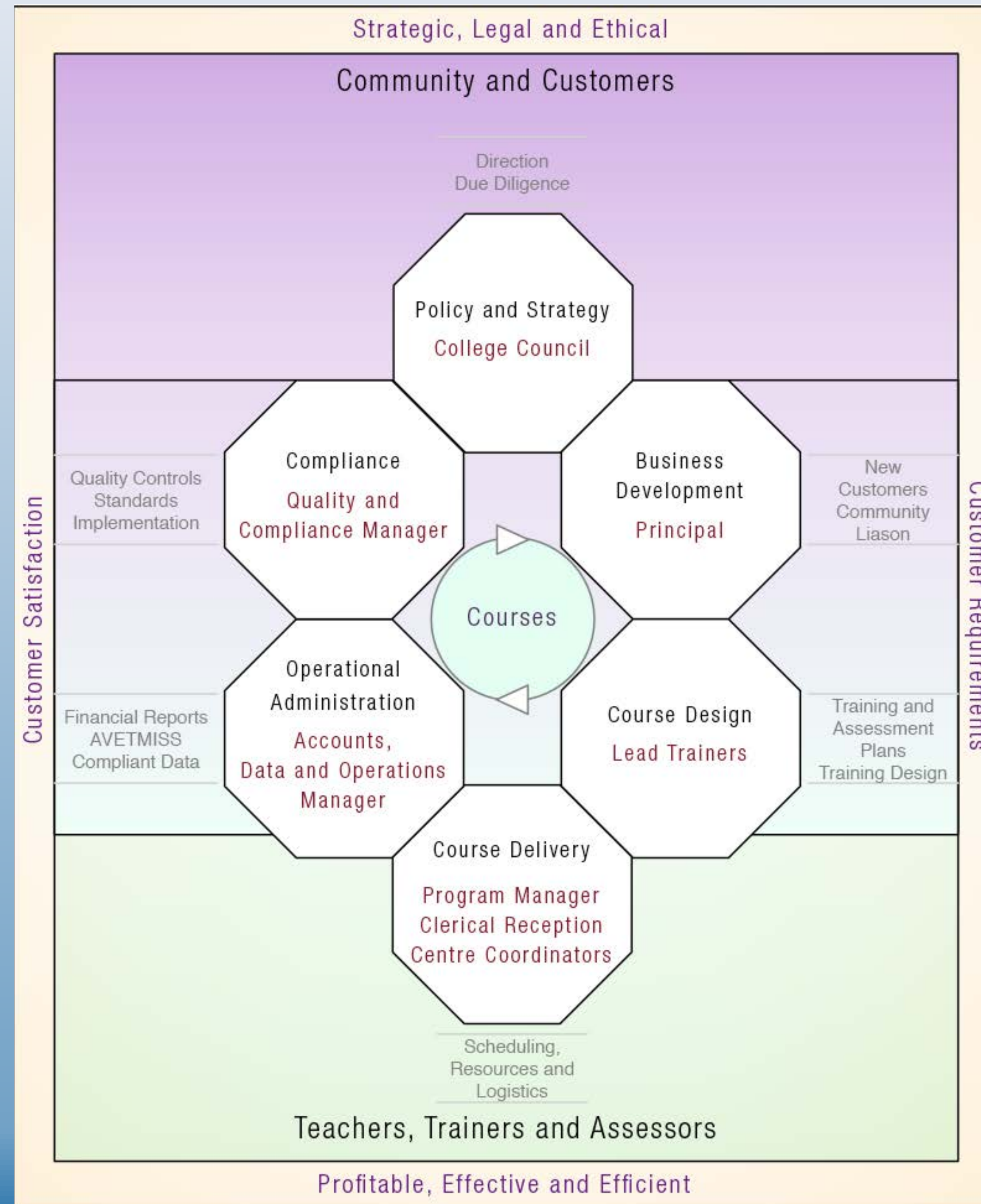




So the College structure is organised around

- Strategy and Governance setting the scaffolding for its work
- Community Connection and Consultation seeking out the needs in the community
- Design and development of programs and courses to respond to those needs
- Engagement and logistics to get those designs out the door and into the community
- Operational Management to address the accounting, accountability and data programs generate
- and to complete the circle
- Quality and Compliance to develop and maintain the systems needed to deliver quality programs.





So where we are headed ?

Toward ...

- Refining our ability to identify needs
- Wrapping design and delivery in continuous feedback.
- Developing internally the tools that Social Impact Investment methodologies bring to the community sector
- Developing ways to better and more frequently engage with both those who want to teach and those who want to learn in the community.

Thank you.

