Proposed CAPS
**(The following CAPs were proposed by SLT members or suggested via
the Zoomerang survey in January/February 2014)**

1. I propose the creation of a College Action Project (CAP) to develop strategies to increase the enrollment of persons 50 and older in both credit and non-credit offerings of the College. This age group includes Baby Boomers, the largest age cohort in American history made up of those born between 1946 and 1964, which represent significant untapped potential for GRCC. Based on research data from Institutional Research and Planning, the five year average of degree seeking students 50 and older at GRCC is only 423, yet based on U.S. Census data there are over 200,000 persons 50 and older living in Kent County.

   The Older Learners Center proposes the creation of a College Action Project (CAP) to develop strategies to increase the enrollment of persons 50 and older in both credit and non-credit offerings of the College. This age group includes Baby Boomers, the largest age cohort in American history made up of those born between 1946 and 1964, which represent significant untapped potential for GRCC. Based on research data from Institutional Research and Planning, the five year average of degree seeking students 50 and older at GRCC is only 423 students annually, yet based on U.S. Census data there are over 200,000 persons 50 and older living in Kent County. We believe that this population represents a significant recruitment opportunity for the College. A team is currently exploring this approach and will have recommendations to make a more formal request by the end of April.

2. Do a better job of branding and marketing GRCC's story to the community. Use a regional approach, not just Kent County.

3. I would like to see a CAP built around better placement of students into classes so they can be successful. (This may mean that more counselors are needed. Maybe they could develop a system for more part-time instructors at "crunch times". Or maybe mandatory placement tests might be the answer. Or perhaps a combination of both.

4. Recruit and market to students who have excelled in the classroom. This will help bolster our Honor's program and retention rates. Will help GRCC shake the stigma that we are a student's "second choice" or "last resort" higher education option.

5. Inclusive of other ethnic minority groups (e.g. female, non-traditional, Latino, etc.)

6. Previous CAP focused on Program of Study. This CAP would have a different focus. Increase the number and quality of K - 12 partnerships.

7. Use the results of the College-Wide Cultural Climate Survey to make three recommendations to guide the direction of the CAP.

   The Diversity Learning Center is requesting a "holder" CAP based on the findings that emerge from the Climate Study. We expect that the data that comes from the study will yield an opportunity to influence our campus culture that will require college-wide collaboration and cooperation. We will have the final report in late Summer and will come to SLT with recommendations in the Fall 2014.

8. Offer businesses, non-profit foundations, and individuals the opportunity to sponsor portion(s) of facility upgrades. IE: one room of one building.

9. An institutional repository (IR) is a system designed for the management and dissemination of digital materials created by the GRCC community. It's important to establish a distributed storage and retrieval mechanism for the intellectual and archival legacy of GRCC. To do this, the LLC would provide the framework and commitment necessary for preservation and access. In addition, the repository would serve as a "talent bank" of expertise available to community members. We hope this strategy will revitalize student research and focus our efforts on unique collections, including archives and photographs. It can do this because it could provide self-service access to resources, like Yearbooks and the Collegiate, Research shows that an IR cannot be successful without contributions and support from across the entire college.

10. Study the feasibility of using Artificial Intelligence tutorial systems (e.g. ALEKS) and other options to improve success in mathematics classes (especially among targeted minorities), accelerate students' passage through developmental math to college level math, and meet new MTA standards for mathematics. (Possible with improved access to data due to CAP 5.3.4.) This study follows CAP 2.1.2 and 2.1.1, as well recommendations from NADE certification of the developmental math program.

11. Student Support:
I think one area of focus would be exploring different models for developmental education and how we can get our students through faster (cohorts, summer programs, weekend prep courses, 2 week basic skills review courses, modules, etc.)

12. Expand our tutoring model. It was suggested that we need to review how the money is being allocated to support students, especially developmental students. We've created new programs for retention and such, but funding for tutoring services has stagnated while the population using the services has exploded. This means that tutoring opportunities for students have been cut significantly. Is this the best use of our money?

13. GRCC needs to improve the support system for students who attend in the evening and off campus.

14. Expand recruitment strategies:
The college has improved its marketing, but could do a lot more. If we especially worked more to recruit tops students, that will help with public perception. But more importantly, if we can increase the percentage of our students who come to us ready for college, it will benefit all students. As a community college, we will always have students who still need to learn the skills required to excel in a learning environment. The more role peer role models we have for them in the classroom, the better it is for all.

15. The college must do a better job of informing the community that we offer high-quality courses for the first two years of nearly any baccalaureate degree at nearly every college/university in Michigan, and we do this inexpensively using a wide variety of formats/locations. (The greater GR community knows we exist, but all they usually hear about is workforce development, preparing citizens for jobs, special courses designed to deal with new technologies (e.g. wind farms), etc. There's nothing wrong with this, of course, but it paints a one-dimensional picture of the college.)

16. Create a CAP focused on establishing partnerships that increase resources for student success

17. Create a CAP to increase/improve diversity and inclusion in order to reduce barriers for all students

18. Create a CAP to increase pathways for students to see the "finish line" to include on-line center/blackboard enhancements, mobile apps, portal presence

19. Create a CAP that makes the Diversity Learning Center an internal entity rather than external.

20. Create a CAP that helps students make connections with staff/feel more connected to GRCC

21. Create a CAP that mandates an on line orientation for all students taking distance learning classes

22. Create a CAP that continues the assessment and curriculum work that is underway

23. Create a CAP that improves information systems, knowledge management and the integration of enterprise software in order to maximize the support technology can provide to our work. For example MDP, Imagenow, peoplesoft integration with other software, ability to provide multiple program codes for an individual student. Must include human resources to do this work.

24. Continue the work to implement an Assessment plan for the college (assessment of program outcomes and ILOs)

25. Create a master plan for student services and support that includes tutoring, remote needs, BB, evening students, part time students, counseling and advising

26. Create a CAP that focuses on middle school students or HS freshman to create a system to support students in preparing them for college

27. Using ABO as a model, what other student groups can we assist?
28. Create a CAP (or multiple CAPs) that include the work of the Street to Completion team (and subteams)

29. Create a CAP that improves services to students not taking classes on main campus

30. Develop comprehensive and collaborative programs to enhance student preparedness through high school and community partnerships, articulation agreements, and middle college initiatives

31. Develop a comprehensive awareness and educational program around all aspects of financial aid and financial literacy to enhance student success and persistence

32. Develop and enhance transfer services and partnerships to establish clear transfer pathways for students and assure a successful transition (hs to college, middle college, cc to 4yr)

33. Develop a comprehensive student success structure for online learners

34. Develop programs (and enhance current efforts) to intentionally focus on student responsibility and accountability through a holistic approach and mentoring. Develop increased opportunities for interactions between students, faculty, and staff.

35. Develop a comprehensive, collaborative approach to student services with a focus on assisting students in understanding and identifying a career pathway.

36. Develop a mechanism to support, educate, and ensure minimal use and knowledge of educational technology to enhance student success

37. Develop a comprehensive student success support structure focused on evening and parttime learners.

38. Improve the online center (student portal, mobile apps) and make enhancements to Blackboard

39. Continue the full implementation of the GRCC Curriculum model

40. Develop a CAP to create ways for students to engage at GRCC including mentorship programs and training for faculty and staff on the importance of creating a community in their classroom. (Part of a Learning Day, not just an optional session at CTE)

41. GRCC needs to stay current/improve our technology for both staff and students. I would love to see the technology in our classrooms updated to make them more user-friendly. Document cameras in all rooms. Or, maybe explore the possibility of getting SmartBoards in many of the rooms.

    I think the college needs to create a CAP to look into what technology is needed to update classrooms. Not every classroom needs the same technology, but it would be nice to have a least a couple classrooms on each floor with updated equipment. For example, it would be great to have a Smartboard, document camera, maybe even a classroom set of tablets that could be checked out for use in my Math for Elementary Teachers classes. We are trying to prepare them to teach in classrooms that have more available than we have!