Question 1: Will the institution consider non-open-source solutions? The following is an excerpt from page 18 of the original RFP sent out by HACC:

“The recruitment and retention system should be built on an open source environment, like the DotNetNuke platform, and supports "framing labels" and text in most all prominent world languages. The online content management tools should also enable us to easily create alternate language page versions.”

Wikipedia’s definition of Open Source Software is as follows:

Open source software is computer software whose source code is available under a license (or arrangement such as the public domain) that permits users to use, change, and improve the software, and to redistribute it in modified or unmodified form. It is often developed in a public, collaborative manner. It is the most prominent example of open source development and often compared to user generated content.[1]

Put in more simple terms, open source content is a piece of software (in this case) which is developed and maintained by a community of users as opposed to a company whose sole dedication is to that software and its maintenance. Whereas a user community will eventually fix bugs and distribute patches, it is largely dependent on the good will of that user community who develops it.

Popular examples of open source software include the Linux Operating System, and the Firefox internet browser.

Answer 1: No

Question 2: Will the institution expect to manage alumni, retention and recruitment from one place or multiple places; and in addition, will the responsibility for all three of those areas fall to one person or multiple people?

Answer 2: We have 5 campuses and several locations and will expect access from each campus site for multiple users.

Question 3: Can you be more specific in regards to the placement test module spoken of on page 22, question 19?
Answer 3: Basically, if we have on-line placement tests such as Acuplacer, will we be able to load the scores directly into the data base.