

Accreditation: Working towards the self-study

Department Heads meeting
Thursday, November 10th, 2016

A few terms

MSCHE: Middle States Commission on Higher Education

www.msche.org

Self-study: Describes educational programs, policies, services, and student learning and achievement. Considers how well institution's goals, mission, and Commission's Standards are met.

Steering Committee: Responsible for organizing self-study design. Edits reports of Working Groups, produces a draft for discussion, and disseminates the final Self-Study Report.



A few terms

Working Groups: Examine existing data and evaluations, gather new information, and prepare analytical reports on assigned topics.

Evaluation Team visit: Reads college's self-study, visits campus for several days, report

Verification of Compliance Report: Show compliance with accreditation-relevant federal regulations

ALO: Accreditation Liaison Officer



Accreditation cycle

Currently: Ten year cycle. Periodic Review report at five years

New format: Eight year cycle. Annual reports.

MSCHE Accreditation Standards

Standard I: Mission and Goals

Standard II: Ethics and Integrity

Standard III: Design and Delivery of the Student Learning Experience

Standard IV: Support of the Student Experience

Standard V: Educational Effectiveness Assessment

Standard VI: Planning, Resources, and Institutional Improvement

Standard VII: Governance, Leadership, and Administration



Ursinus College

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Pick your favorite!



Ursinus College

Timeline for self-study

Fall 2016

- Self-study institute
- Form Steering Committee
- Steering Committee designs self-study
- Solicit nominations for members of Working Groups

Spring 2017

- Working groups form
- MSCHE VP liaison visits campus (*meets with President, members of Board of Trustees, representatives of faculty/administrators/staff/students, self-study steering committee, etc.*)

Summer 2017

- Steering Committee responds to feedback about self-study



Timeline for self-study

Fall 2017

- Working groups gather data and documentation
- Draft chapters of self-study
- Begin work on Verification of Compliance Report

Spring 2018

- Working Groups revise chapters of self-study
- First version of draft is completed

Summer 2018

- Draft is revised



Timeline for self-study

Fall 2018

- Community wide discussion of self-study
- Revise self-study
- Preliminary visit from MSCHE team chair
- Submit Verification of Compliance Report

Spring 2019

- Revise self-study
- Submit final version
- Visiting team comes to campus
- Commission meets to determine accreditation action (June)



This is a campus wide project!

How can we best communicate?

Thank you in advance for contributing!