

Self Study Update

Thanks to the collective hard work of many individuals, progress on our Accreditation Self-Study Report is proceeding on schedule. At the end of October, the 11 Writing Groups submitted first drafts of their self-study reports for the Accreditation Steering Committee (ASC) to review.

After reading and commenting upon the drafts, the ASC members met with the chairpersons of the Writing Groups to discuss the revision process. The Writing Groups then devised plans for completing their second drafts, recognizing that the new Accreditation Standards require longer, more detailed responses, as well as a higher standard of evidence to support these responses.

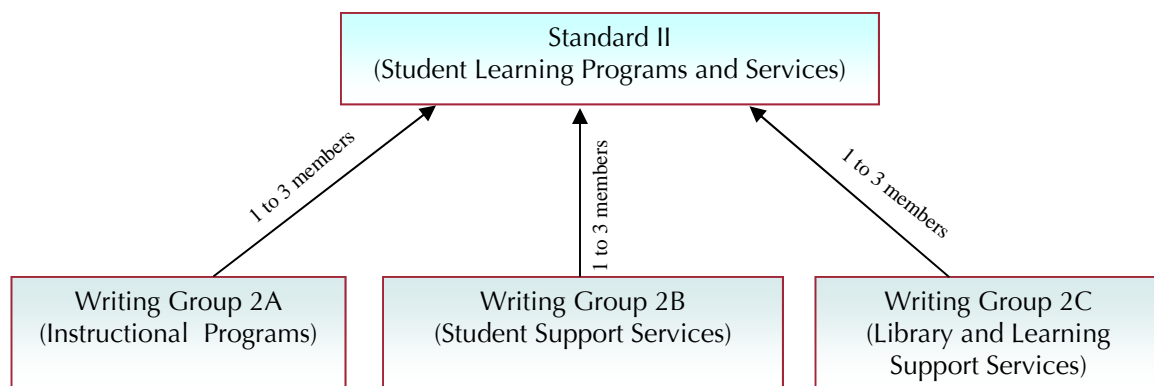
While many of us were enjoying our winter break, Writing Group members worked on their reports and are on target to meet their March 28, 2008, deadline for producing a second draft of their portion of the self study. To help the Writing Groups in their final push to draft completion, "resident experts," that is, people on campus with specialized knowledge in specific areas of the Standards, have recently been appointed to the groups. These contributors will enhance the substantial revisions that have occurred since last fall.

Next Steps

Eleven focus groups will assemble during the first two weeks of April to read and review the Writing Groups' second drafts. Input from the focus groups will then be forwarded to members of the four Standard Committees, who will continue the self-study writing process.

The Standard Committees are comprised of several members from each Writing Group within a particular Standard. For example, Standard II (see Figure 1), Student Learning Programs and Services, has three subcategories and will include one to three members from Writing Groups 2A (Instructional Programs), 2B (Student Support Services), and 2C (Library and Learning Support Services).

Figure 1



The four Standard Committees will convene after spring break to review the work of the Writing Groups from within their respective Standards and revise accordingly. At the content level, the Standard Committee members will ensure that the six Accreditation themes are addressed, verify that adequate and appropriate evidence is provided and cited, and identify and resolve conflicts, gaps, and repetition. The Standard Committees will also work on style and mechanics before turning the documents over to the self-study coordinator for final editing this summer.

Accreditation Site Team Visit Announced

We have been informed by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC), a division of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges' Accrediting Commission (WASC), that our Accreditation site team visit will be **March 16-19, 2009**. Our Self-Study Report is due 60 days before the site visit, giving us a due date for the report of mid-December, at the end of our Fall 2008 semester. Many activities are being planned to occur between now and then to ensure that the entire campus community will be prepared for this all important site visit. See the timeline below and stay tuned for more!

Accreditation Timeline

<u>2008</u>	
June 13	Completed drafts due from the four Standard Committees to the Self-Study Coordinator
June 16—July 31	Self-Study Coordinator edits complete Self-Study Report
August 1	Executive Committee and Shared Governance Groups receive report for informational purposes
August 4	Self-Study Report submitted to Publications Office for formatting and printing
September	Printed Self-Study Report available to the campus community for review
October	Preparation for Mock Site Visit
November	Campus-wide Mock Site Visit and Accreditation Steering Committee debriefing; Addendums incorporated into Self-Study Report, if needed
December	Final Self-Study Report presented to the Board of Trustees for approval
<u>2009</u>	
January—February	Campus preparation for Accreditation Site Team visit
March 16—19	Accreditation Site Team visit

Accreditation Steering Committee:

Trustee Representative: Beth Wells-Miller

Classified Representatives: Maureen Davidson and Barbara Salmon

Faculty Representatives: Jim Bickley, Carol Curtis, Kay Dabelow, and Allen Dooley

Management Representatives: Ellen Ligons, Kim Miles, and Rick Van Pelt

Student Representative: Natalie Courtney

Accreditation Liaison Officer: Stuart Wilcox

Accreditation Self-Study Coordinator: Lynn Wright