The Truth About Compliance

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Vice Provost--Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness

SACSCOC Summer Institute
July 2017

Fifth-Year Interim Report – The Official Source

» SACSCOC.org
» Institutional Resources (scroll to the bottom)
» The Fifth-Year Interim Report: Information, Forms and Timelines
Fifth-Year Interim Report Documents

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» The Fifth-Year Interim Report: Information, Forms and Timelines

The Fifth-Year Interim Report is divided into five parts:

Part I. Signatures Attesting to Integrity (applicable to all institutions)
Part II. Institutional Summary Form Prepared for Commission Reviews (applicable to all institutions)
Part III. Fifth-Year Compliance Certification (applicable to all institutions)
Part IV. Fifth-Year Follow-Up (applicable to select institutions)
Part V. Impact Report of the Quality Enhancement Plan (applicable to all institutions)

What is Accreditation about? What is Reaffirmation about?
What is institutional effectiveness?
Accreditation?
Let's get this over with...

Accreditation is about Institutional Effectiveness, defined by SACSCOC as “the systematic, explicit, and documented process of measuring performance against mission in all aspects of an institution.”

What is the Fifth Year report (FYR) about?
A Bit of Math About Compliance Review

- Institutional Effectiveness (IE)
- Institutional Assessment (IA)
- Institutional Research (IR)

- A global view: IA+IR=IE

Mission: Here is ours...

What about yours?

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University is an 1890 land-grant doctoral research university dedicated to learning, discovery, and community engagement. The University provides a wide range of educational opportunities from bachelors to doctoral degrees in both traditional and online environments. With an emphasis on preeminence in STEM and a commitment to excellence in all its educational, research, and outreach programs, North Carolina A&T fosters a climate of economic competitiveness that prepares students for the global society. (Approved by the UNC Board of Governors, Feb. 21, 2014)
Mission: Here is ours...

What about yours?

The Office of Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness (OSPIE) fosters student success and the University’s effectiveness by facilitating evidence-based decision-making. OSPIE serves as the primary source of official data reported from all major administrative systems across the University, conducts objective research and analysis for decision makers, prepares reports that improve understanding of institutional and program performance, builds data collections, facilitates access to institutional data, and advocates for data quality and integrity. OSPIE supports student learning assessment, the development and evaluation of academic programs and administrative functions, and institutional and program accreditation.

Notes to myself...

- Be curious about the institution
- Make external stressors felt inside the campus
- Learn what you need and do not know
- Reach out; make friends; ask
- Find some $$ to get the job done
- Be organized, set deadlines
- Be prepared for indifference
- Find ways to make it interesting for yourself
A Path to Understanding IE

» What is a ‘first principle’? What is the ‘first principle’ of higher education?
» How many public institutions of higher learning are in the USA?
» How are they doing? What is the ‘word’ on higher education today?
» Why?
» How is NCA&T doing? What is the ‘word’ on how we are doing?
» How do we know ‘how’ we are doing? What guides us?
» Are we accountable to anyone? Who would that be?
» Why do we need to be accountable?

Leadership Selection

» Chancellor, Provost and Accreditation Liaison have defined roles
» Who is behind academic programs and policy?
» Who is behind resource allocation?
» Who is behind student success?
» Who is behind faculty success?
» Who is most passionate about tying mission to practice?
» Who is the NCAT faculty archetype?
» Who is the NCAT student archetype?
» Who is the NCAT staff archetype?
Dilemmas Facing Higher Education

» A better educated workforce is asking questions (growing middle class)
» Growing youth population
» Inclusive education: Recognition that 'additional' students will be lower income and probably less well prepared academically
» State investment in higher education: up or down?
» So how do institutions address the gap in funding?
» Compare rising educational costs to rise in median family income
» Global demand for technically educated work force
» Infusion of a different endowment – private investment capital
» Blurring lines between for-profit and nonprofit higher education

“our university has evolved from being a state institution to being state supported, then state assisted, next state located and now state annoyed” – (The Economist, 2005)
What is the Framework?
(the pillars that hold everything together)

Framework for Successful Compliance Review

- Essentials: Self-study, contemplation, research, reflection and discovery
  - Integrity and commitment (Truth-Seeking and Truth-Telling)
  - Focus
  - Vertical and Horizontal flow and engagement (team effort)
  - Alignment (resources with priorities; policies and practice; evidence and decisions)
What is the Timeline, Process, Key Roles?

FYR – What is our process? Who leads and controls it?

» Process is guided by SACSCOC requirements and guidelines (for the most part)
» Chancellor leads; Accreditation Liaison manages process
» Executed by Institutional Effectiveness Council (IEC)
  » SACS standard subcommittees (2014-2015)
  » Revised IEC (2015-2016)
  » Report submitted (March 15, 2016)
  » Compliance review results (Aug. 2016)
### SACS Standard Subcommittees

**Schedule for Presentation of Compliance Analysis to IEC**

Sub-Committee needs to meet, collect documentation and data, develop first drafts of supporting summary charts as needed and create a power point or word presentation for the IEC Meeting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section No.</th>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>Brief Description</th>
<th>Team Leader</th>
<th>Action Needed</th>
<th>Date: Presentation of Compliance Report to IEC</th>
<th>Action Update Scheduled</th>
<th>Needs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.10.1</td>
<td>Financial Aid Audits: The institution audits financial aid programs as required by federal and state regulations.</td>
<td>Hummel, Barth, K. Williams</td>
<td>March 9, 2015</td>
<td>May 2015</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Needs are to schedule the audit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>Program Length: Program length is appropriate for each of the institution's educational programs.</td>
<td>Salas, A. Adams, Carter, Brough</td>
<td>March 9, 2015</td>
<td>May 9, 2015</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Needs are to schedule for next year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>Title IV Programs: The institution is in compliance with all program requirements under Title IV of the Higher Education Act as amended.</td>
<td>Bridges, Bridges, Bridges</td>
<td>March 9, 2015</td>
<td>May 2015</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Needs are to update the report.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>Credit Hour requirements</td>
<td>Bridges, Bridges, Bridges</td>
<td>March 9, 2015</td>
<td>May 2015</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Needs are to update the report.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**July 2015: Only 50% of reports completed :(**
Revised IEC and Process (2015-2016)

- Website
- 3.3.1.1 woes
- Lack of shared understanding of assessment process
- Consultant support
- Taskstream training
- Program and Student Learning Outcomes assessment training for IEC
- Share updates with diverse campus groups
March 2016: A Review of Our Compliance Report

SACSCOC
Fifth-Year Interim Report
March 15, 2016
Highlights from each standard included in the Fifth Year Report.

Preeminence 2020 & SACS Reaffirmation 2020
Keeping it Real. Making it Happen!

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University
Questions?