



**University of Detroit Mercy
North Central Association
Steering Committee**



**Making the Grade:
Transforming Lives to Lead & Serve**

Presentation Objectives

- To provide the UDM Community with information about the Higher Learning Commission's new approach to Accreditation.
- To provide the UDM Community with the Self Study process and progress to date.
- To engage the UDM Community in the Self Study Process



Presentation Outline

- Background
 - The Higher Learning Commission Cross Cutting Themes: A Paradigm Shift
 - The New Criteria
- Self Study Plan and Timeline
- Requests from the Steering Committee



Background

- The Higher Learning Commission (HLC): *“Serving the common good by assuring and advancing the quality of higher learning.”*



Background

■ HLC Expectations:

- Internal knowledge of the criteria and how they are met.
- Internal and External knowledge of University excellence, mission, service, etc. through a commitment to ongoing assessment.
- Evidence of self evaluation and reflection (Data-driven decision making and its relationship to Strategic Planning).



Background

- Self Study Cross Cutting Themes:
 - Distinctive
 - Mission Driven
 - Future Oriented
 - Learning Focused
 - Engaged and Connected



HLC's Paradigm Shift

From:

- Teaching
- Research and Scholarship
- Service
- Inputs
- Compliance
- Past Success

To:

- Learning
- Acquisition of Knowledge
- Engagement
- Outputs
- Fulfillment
- Future Goals



Criterion One:

■ ***Mission and Integrity***

The organization operates with integrity to ensure the fulfillment of its mission through structures and processes that involve the board, administration, faculty, staff, and students.



Criterion Two:

■ ***Preparing For The Future***

The organization's allocation of resources and its processes for evaluation and planning demonstrate its capacity to fulfill its mission, improve the quality of its education, and respond to future challenges and opportunities.



Criterion Three:

- ***Student Learning and Effective Teaching***

The organization provides evidence of student learning and teaching effectiveness that demonstrates it is fulfilling its educational mission.



Criterion Four:

- ***Acquisition, Discovery, and Application of Knowledge***

The organization promotes a life of learning for its faculty, administration, staff, and students by fostering and supporting inquiry, creativity, practice, and social responsibility in ways consistent with its mission.



Criterion Five:

- ***Engagement and Service***

As called for by its mission, the organization identifies its constituencies and serves them in ways both value.



Self Study Plan

Steering Committee Charge:

- To plan, oversee, and coordinate the self study process and write the self-study report for the comprehensive evaluation of the University by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. ***The site visit is scheduled for January 29-31, 2007.***



Self Study Plan

Steering Committee Goal:

- To present a self study report that actively engages the entire University community. This process will result in successfully receiving full accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission in January 2007 and lay the groundwork for continuous reflection and improvement in meeting the University's mission.



Self Study Plan

Sub-committee structure

- One sub-committee for each of the HLC's five criteria.
- Writing teams lead by co-chairs that are members of the Steering Committee -- four to five members per sub-committee.
- Input from all University sectors, including:
 - a) University Board Members,
 - b) University administration,
 - c) College administration (i.e. Deans),
 - d) Faculty members,
 - e) University Staff (e.g. Student Affairs, Financial Aid, Registrar, etc.), and
 - f) Students.



Steering Committee Members

Chair:

Kathleen Zimmerman-Oster

Criterion One: "Mission" SubCommittee:

Elizabeth Roberts-Kirchhoff

Pamela Zarkowski

Criterion Two: "Future" SubCommittee:

Nancy Surma

Kathleen Caprio

Criterion Three: "Learning" SubCommittee:

Lawrence Bossman

Stephen LaGrassa





Steering Committee Members

Criterion Four: “Knowldege” SubCommittee:

Sandra Wilson

Vivian Dicks

Criterion Five: “Engagement” SubCommittee:

Monica Leonard

Janet Baiardi

General Members:

Elaine Bell

Jay Thomas

Self Study Plan

Communication Plan

- Presentation at Fall Convocation
- Website Launch
- “Talking Points” Presentations
- Monthly E-mail Updates
- Town Hall Q & A
- Focused Discussions of Self Study Draft Documents



Self Study Timeline

- January 15, 2005 Convene Steering Committee
- June – Aug. 2005 Sub-Committee Data Gathering and Focused Discussions
- August 19, 2005 Initiate Collaborative Process Convocation Address and Website Launch
- June – Sept. 2005 “Talking Points” Presentations
- October 15, 2005 Deadline for UDM Community Input Templates
- November 15, 2005 Chapter Outlines Proposed
- January 15, 2006 First Draft of Self Study Chapters



Self Study Timeline

- February, 2006 Focused Discussions of Criteria One & Five
- March, 2006 Focused Discussions of Criteria Two, Three & Four
- April, 2006 Second Draft of Self Study
- April – June, 2006 Final University-wide Review
- September, 2006 Publication of Final Draft
- Oct. 2006 -Jan. 2007 Final Site Visit Preparations
- Jan. 29 – 31, 2007 Site Visit



Self Study Timeline

- March, 2007 Written Response to NCA Draft Report with Correction of Errors of Fact
- April, 2007 NCA Site Visit Report Received and Shared with the University Community
- May, 2007 Written Response to NCA Final Report
- May, 2007 - ongoing Liaison and Implementation of Recommendations by Appropriate Shared Governance Task Forces



Steering Committee Requests

- Review and become familiar with the Five Criteria
- Visit the website udmercy.edu/nca
- Complete the “UDM Community Input Template” and engage in the Self Study Process
- Participate in the focus group discussions in Term II to review the draft and provide feedback to the team.





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Questions?