

**Summary of Southern Association of Colleges and Schools–Commission on Colleges (SACS-COC)
Accreditation Processes
Fifth Year Interim Report vs. Decennial Reaffirmation**

Fifth Year Interim Report (2014)

Purpose: Ensure ongoing compliance with (i) all eleven Federal Requirements as required by the US Dept. of Education; (ii) nine selected core and comprehensive requirements, and (iii) the impact of the 2008 Quality Enhancement Plan project (*Teaching with Cases*).

Time Period Reported: from 2008 through 2013, using evidence from FY 2011 through FY 2013

SACS-COC Review Process: Off-site review committee conducted appraisal of responses to the twenty identified requirements; verified institutional activities and monitoring of key requirements and standards. Also reviewed impact of the QEP on student learning.

Sample of topics reviewed:

Faculty/Staff

- FT/PT Faculty ratio
- Administrative/Academic Officers
- Academic Program Coordinators

Academic Programs

- Admissions Policies
- Program Curriculum & Length
- Distance Education
- Credit Hour Requirements

Administrative Responsibilities

- Physical Facilities
- SACS-COC Policy Compliance & publication of policies
- Financial Aid

Students

- Support Services
- Student Complaints
- Recruitment Materials

Institutional Effectiveness

- Academic Program Assessment
- Student Achievement

Quality Enhancement Plan

Result: Continued reaffirmation of accreditation with no further monitoring until decennial review

**Decennial Reaffirmation (for 2018-2028)
Compliance Certification**

Purpose: Demonstrate compliance with all Core Requirements, including the QEP (16); Comprehensive Standards (64); and Federal Requirements (11), plus the principle of integrity (1).

Time Period Reported: 2008 through FY 2017, with supporting evidence provided from FY 2016 and FY 2017

SACS-COC Review Process:

- Off-site committee evaluates Compliance Certification (Self Study).
- Institution submits Focused Report addressing concerns of off-site review.
- On-Site Review Committee visits the HSC to determine compliance, based on the Compliance Certification, Focused Report, and on-site assessment. Addresses proposed QEP as well.
- Institution submits Follow-Up Report responding to On-Site Committee formal recommendations.
- SACS-COC takes action on reaffirmation; may request monitoring report.

Sample of topics reviewed:

- Financial Resources and Stability
- Physical Resources
- Academic and Student Support Services outcomes
- Organizational structure and Personnel appointments
- Administrative Staff Evaluations/Faculty Evaluations
- Fund-raising activities
- Intellectual Property Rights
- Administrative Support Services outcomes
- Research outcomes
- Community/Public Service outcomes
- Libraries

Timelines:

Compliance Certification (Self Study) due September 2017; Includes supporting evidence from FY 2016 & 2017

Focused Report: due January 2018; new supporting evidence from FY 2017 added

On-Site Visit: March 27-29, 2018

Follow-up Report: Due September 2018; new evidence from FY 2018 added

SACS-COC Institutional Leadership Team:

President Henrich
Ms. Andrea Marks, Vice President and CFO
Dr. Adriana Segura, Faculty Leader
Dr. Jacqueline Mok, Vice President, AFSA
Dr. Blanca Bauer, AVP and SACS-COC Institutional Liaison

Executive Committee's full support and engagement will ensure our success.