

From: Menninger, Gaynia **On Behalf Of** Eichner, Kevin
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2011 12:46 PM
To: OUOTTAWA; OUKC; OUAZ; OUMIL; OUJEFF; OU Online
Subject: Announcing OU's HLC Self-Study for 2013-14

COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION OF OTTAWA UNIVERSITY

January 2011 marks the beginning of Ottawa University's period of self-evaluation that will culminate in its ten-year comprehensive review by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). Self-study is a requirement for continued accreditation but, more importantly, it is an opportunity for renewal, institutional improvement, and strengthening of our heritage, mission, purposes, and identity.

Self-study will require our very best efforts and the concerted involvement of administrators, faculty, staff, students, alumni, and trustees. The process will be characterized by individual and collective initiative, by an emphasis on effective communication, and by a commitment on the part of all to increased institutional effectiveness and to student learning for lives of service.

Vision 2020 provides the framework for self-study and is key to Ottawa University's success—the strategic planning process, the evaluation of progress to date, the implementation of Phase II, and the outcomes expected by 2013-14. Ottawa University will build on its excellent record of accomplishments, will unite the talents of its combined academic and administrative leadership, and will bring together all University constituencies for a successful and enriching self-study experience. HLC expects your participation, as do I. We do many things that are important for our future, but few are as critical as this. So let's do this work with vigor and creativity.

Ottawa University will engage in self-study in light of the following objectives:

- To evaluate itself in light of its mission statement, to identify strengths and challenges, and to adapt its programs and practices in order to accomplish its purposes more effectively.
- To evaluate progress made in response to concerns of the 2003-04 HLC team and to continue development of improvement strategies.
- To respond to HLC's heightened expectations for the assessment of student academic achievement, beginning with immediate conversion to an electronic assessment process.
- To seek HLC approval of new graduate program(s) and/or new location(s).
- To demonstrate formally how Ottawa University satisfies the criteria for continued accreditation and their associated core components.

Jan Stone, Associate Vice President for Regulatory Affairs, in reprising her 2003-04 role as director of the self-study process, will announce shortly the membership of the self-study steering committee. I am confident that this group will embrace its challenge and opportunity with thoroughness, integrity, and excellence. We welcome the process and its expected outcomes: A strengthened Ottawa University community and successful reaccreditation in 2013-2014.

Kevin

Kevin C. Eichner, President
Ottawa University
1001 S. Cedar St., #1
Ottawa, KS 66067
785-242-5200, Ext. 5506
kevin.eichner@ottawa.edu
www.ottawa.edu

NOTICE TO RECIPIENT: The information contained in this electronic mail message and in all attachments here to are confidential, privileged and/or proprietary and are intended for the exclusive use of the addressee(s). If you are not an intended addressee of this message, your interception, copying, distribution, disclosure or other use of this message, any attachment or the information contained therein is strictly prohibited. If you received this message and are not an addressee hereof, immediately notify the sender by e-mail and destroy every electronic, paper and other copy of this message and all attachments hereto and every digest or other summary of the information contained herein or in any attachment. All e-mail sent to this address will be received by the Ottawa University e-mail system and is subject to archiving and review by someone other than the recipient.