

**From:** Stone, Jan  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 27, 2011 12:14 PM  
**To:** OUOTTAWA; OUKC; OUAZ; OUMIL; OUJEFF; OU Online  
**Subject:** OU HLC Self-Study Steering Committee and Criteria

Dear Ottawa University Colleagues:

As we launch the self-study process for our ten-year comprehensive evaluation by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), many of us may reflect on how much institutional change has occurred since our 2003-04 success. Again it is time to tell and evaluate our story—past, present, future—to succeed with another ten-year period of reaccreditation in 2013-14.

My role as self-study director will be the same as before, but there will be significant changes based on an analysis of what worked well and what did not, plus insights gained from my intervening six-year return to the Phoenix faculty. As associate director Virginia (Ginnie) Rudnick will also reprise her 2003-04 role with significant experience gained in data collection and analysis through her intervening enrollment management and CX responsibilities.

The Self-Study Steering Committee members identified below represent university-wide and unit-specific faculty and administrative voices, institutional memory (old timers), and the technological expertise essential to building an electronic resource room, evaluative support, and portal communications. Special subcommittees devoted to HLC issues (e.g., library and federal compliance) and self-identified areas of concern (e.g., conversion of assessment to an electronic platform) will be appointed by the steering committee and will include a broad and diverse cross-section of university personnel. Additional steering committee representation will be added in year two, including the three schools, student services staff, and students.

#### **Self-Study Steering Committee Administration**

Jan Stone, Associate Vice President for Regulatory Affairs: Director of HLC Self-Study  
Virginia Rudnick, Coordinator of Institutional Effectiveness: Associate Director of Self-Study  
Brandi Bigham, Programmer/Analyst: Electronic Resource Room Coordinator  
Kathie Wayne, Academic Support Specialist: Electronic Resource Room Coordinator

#### **Steering Committee Members, alphabetically**

Karen Adams, University Registrar  
Joyce Caldwell, Milwaukee Faculty and Visitor to the Board  
Andy Carrier, College Faculty and Men's Basketball Coach  
Sara Freeman, IT Manager, Enterprise Applications  
Peggie Lanzone, Arizona Director of Administration, APS Student Services  
Jack Maxwell, Chief Information Officer  
Brian Messer, Vice President of APOS  
Karen Mitchell, Kansas City Faculty and CPPG Member  
Karen Ohnesorge, Dean of Instruction, The College  
Clark Ribordy, Vice President for Administration and CFO  
Tom Taldo, Dean of Student Affairs, The College  
Hank Tillinghast, College Faculty and Visitor to the Board  
Dennis Tyner, Vice President and Provost, The College, and Adawe Director  
Carine Ullom, Director of Academic Services for OU Online  
Mary Vanis, Campus Executive, Arizona, and HLC Consultant/Evaluator

As President Eichner stated: “We do many things that are important for our future, but few are as critical as this.” All members of the university community must be engaged and conversant with the criteria for accreditation—substantially changed from those in effect at the time of our 2003-04 comprehensive evaluation. The new criteria are:

- Criterion One: Mission and Integrity
- Criterion Two: Preparing for the Future
- Criterion Three: Student Learning and Effective Teaching
- Criterion Four: Acquisition, Discovery, and Application of Knowledge
- Criterion Five: Engagement and Service

Soon the steering committee will invite all faculty and staff from all sites to a web-based exchange of ideas related to the criteria. More importantly for today, the criteria need to inform our deliberations in our daily meetings—administrative, academic, student services—and our interactions with our students and our external communities.

To that end, a synopsis of the HLC Criteria for Accreditation is attached, and I trust that each of you will read it thoroughly and soon. If I can help in any way with questions or clarifications, please contact me.

Thank you so much for your support in launching self-study and participating when called upon to contribute to the success of our reaccreditation process.

Sincerely,

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