

*This issue of the monthly newsletter on IUPUI's Fall 2012 reaccreditation continues to summarize the North Central Association Higher Learning Commission's five Criteria for Accreditation. Our focuses for April are Criteria Three and Four. Additional information about the reaccreditation process and the five criteria is available at <http://www.ncahlc.org/information-for-institutions/publications.html>. Past issues of this newsletter can be accessed at [nca.iupui.edu](http://nca.iupui.edu).*

## Part 2: What are the Criteria for Accreditation?

### Criterion 3 - Student Learning and Effective Teaching

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

**Core Component 3a:** The organization's goals for student learning outcomes are clearly stated for each educational program and make effective assessment possible.

**Core Component 3b:** The organization values and supports effective teaching.

**Core Component 3c:** The organization creates effective learning environments.

**Core Component 3d:** The organization's learning resources support student learning and effective teaching.

Criterion Committee 3 is co-chaired by Drs. Pratibha Varma-Nelson ([pvn@iupui.edu](mailto:pvn@iupui.edu)) and Kathy Johnson ([kjohnso@iupui.edu](mailto:kjohnso@iupui.edu)). The self-study for Criterion 3 seeks to address four major themes: 1) How does our

campus provide evidence of student learning and teaching effectiveness that demonstrates that the campus is fulfilling its educational mission, 2) How clearly are goals for student learning outcomes stated for each educational program and does this enhance assessment of learning outcomes? 3) What evidence do we have that our institution values and supports effective teaching, and what strategies are used to create effective learning environments? And, 4) What resources have been deployed to support student learning and effective teaching? The self-study group has been meeting regularly to gather appropriate pieces of data to evaluate each area.

### Criterion 4 - 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.

**Core Component - 4a:** The organization demonstrates, through the actions of its board, administrators, students, faculty, and staff, that it values a life of learning.

**Core Component - 4b:** The organization demonstrates that acquisition of a breadth of knowledge and skills and the exercise of intellectual inquiry are integral to its educational programs.

**Core Component - 4c:** The organization assesses the usefulness of its curricula

to students who will live and work in a global, diverse, and technological society.

**Core Component - 4d:** The organization provides support to ensure that faculty, students, and staff acquire, discover, and apply knowledge responsibly.

Criterion Committee 4 is co-chaired by Drs. Dominique Galli ([dgalli@iupui.edu](mailto:dgalli@iupui.edu)) and Clifford Goodwin ([cgoodwin@iupui.edu](mailto:cgoodwin@iupui.edu)). The self-study group will cover 1) research opportunities, support and achievements at the student, staff and faculty levels (core component 4a), 2) policies and institutional oversight related to intellectual property and the ethical conduct of research (core component 4d), 3) professional development opportunities for administrators, staff and faculty (core component 4a), 4) general education programs and their reviews (core component 4b and c), 5) assessment of graduate programs (core component 4b), and 6) curricula and learning outcomes that address the global, diverse and technological nature of our society. The self-study group has met monthly since October, 2010 for the purpose of strategic planning, identification of resources and data collection. It was agreed that Dr. Galli will oversee the completion of core components 4 a and d, whereas Dr. Goodwin will be in charge of core components 4 b and c.

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- » HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION CONFERENCE
- » TOWN HALL MEETINGS

# 2012 Committee Reps Attend Higher Learning Commission

Seven IUPUI representatives attended the Higher Learning Commission/ North Central Accreditation (HLC/ NCA) annual meeting and self-study workshop in early April. The meeting provided an opportunity for participants to hear from HLC/NCA staff about expectations for the self-study and from campuses that were recently reviewed for reaffirmation of their accreditation about their experiences. Some of the main ideas, advice, and new information emerging from the meeting included:

- Identify early the “story” we want the self-study to tell about our institution. The story should be directly related to the campus mission, vision, and culture and should be incorporated into the self-study as a theme providing an integrative framework for our discussion of how we meet the five Criteria for Accreditation.
- Take an evaluative stance throughout the self-study, rather than merely describing our institution and presenting data. For each criterion and core component, we should focus on strengths, challenges, and plans for the future to demonstrate that IUPUI is an institution that understands itself.
- Show that systematic, ongoing assessment and demonstrable improvement of student learning are integral to all educational programs. We need to make the case that teaching, learning, and curriculum

development are evidence-based.

- Involve all campus constituencies, including faculty, staff, community members, students, and trustees in the self-study process.
- Self-studies and related evidence and documents must be in electronic form. No hard copies are to be sent to the Commission or to our review team.



## First Series of Town Hall Meetings Completed

In March and April 2011 the five Criterion Committees developing the self-study conducted a series of informal Town Hall gatherings for IUPUI faculty, administrators, staff, and students to provide an overview of the HLC/NCA Criteria for Accreditation and to gather data, feedback, and examples that demonstrate how IUPUI meets the criteria and what improvements may be necessary. The 90-minute forums each drew approximately 30 participants from across the campus. Each session highlighted one or two of the five criteria and included progress reports from the committee chairs, along with a good deal of discussion. Attendees were helpful in suggesting evidence and examples to be used in the self-study. Everyone on campus is encouraged to provide additional information to the Criterion Committee chairs; their contact information is listed elsewhere in this issue. Additional Town Hall meetings will be scheduled in Fall

2011, as draft documents are prepared and disseminated. All members of the IUPUI community will be invited to attend these and to contribute their ideas and examples as self-study continues to develop.

### Committee Contacts

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### Reaccreditation Timeline

April 2011  
May 2011  
September 2011  
October 2011  
November 2011  
December 2011 to  
February 2012  
March-April 2012  
April 2012  
May 2012  
June and July 2012  
August 2012  
September 2012  
November 2012

Committee chairs attend HLC annual meeting in Chicago  
Send timeline and organizational plan to HLC liaison  
Committees outline drafts and confirm dates of visit  
HLC staff liaison visits IUPUI  
Send first draft of Criteria to writing team  
Committee members review first drafts and send to readers  
  
Conduct town hall meetings on report drafts, then edit drafts  
Steering committee reviews final drafts  
Receive final draft of report from writers  
Print final report and prepare for HLC team visit  
Send final report, calendar, and timeline to HLC  
Issue public announcement of HLC visit  
HLC site visit