

Accreditation Countdown!

Weber State University

4/1/2014

Volume 1

Northwest Accreditation Visit

October 27 – 29, 2014

Our seven year accreditation visit from the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) will be conducted Monday, October 27 through Wednesday, October 29, 2014. During that time period a 7 – 10 member committee of accreditors from various institutions in the region will be at Weber State University to visit with faculty, staff, students, administrators, and

community members. We are going to publish a newsletter every two months between now and that visit to help keep you informed about the process. If you have not previously participated in an accreditation visit, you will soon find out that it involves a good deal of preparation, a lot of anticipation, and, hopefully, a bit of fun!

The on-site accreditation visit will be conducted October 27 – 29, 2014. What role will you play?

Faculty Updates

Artifacts and CVs

Department chairs and program directors were recently asked to begin collecting artifacts of student learning. These artifacts will be digitized, when possible and uploaded into a Canvas course specifically setup for

the accreditation visit. The course will provide accreditors with access prior to coming to campus and help to improve the efficiency of the visit. Questions have been raised about the requirements for

NWCCU



The mission of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) is to assure educational quality, enhance institutional effectiveness, and foster continuous improvement of colleges and universities in the Northwest region through analytical institutional self-assessment and critical peer review based upon evaluation criteria that are objectively and equitably applied to institutions with diverse missions, characteristics, and cultures.

WSU Accreditation Planning Committee:

Ryan Thomas (x7931)
Dana Gibson (x6006)
Donna Wollman (x7454)
Heather Chapman (x7177)
Gail Niklason (x8586)

Have questions? Feel free to contact us!

securing student permission for use of artifacts. Here are the guidelines: if the artifact is a student-submitted paper, piece of art, or program, then no, student permission to use is not necessary. Any identifying information about the student, however, must be removed. If the artifact is a recording of a performance, speech, or presentation where a student can be identified, then yes, permission to use the artifact must be obtained from that student.

Faculty CVs

Full-time, contract faculty have been asked to submit current curricula vitae for the accreditation visit. These too will be uploaded to a College-level Canvas course. Here are some guidelines for your CV:

- 1 – Some disciplines have suggested formats for CVs; feel free to follow that format.
- 2 – There is no need to limit the length of a CV.
- 3 – If you are uncertain as to what format to use, feel free to use the ‘Vitae Manager’ within the eWeber portal. Instructions for using that application are available at the [OIE website](#).

WSU Core Themes

Quick! Can you name Weber State’s three core themes? No? Then it’s time for a review!

ACCESS: WSU serves communities with significant socio-economic and cultural differences. As the “educational, cultural and economic leader for the region,” WSU strives to provide meaningful access for prospective students to educational programs that respond to student and market needs.

LEARNING: WSU is first and foremost an institution of higher education that provides and supports “excellent learning experiences for students” in an environment that values “freedom of expression” and engaged learning through “extensive personal contact among faculty, staff and students in and out of the classroom” and “research, artistic expression, public service and community-based learning.”

COMMUNITY: “Public service and community-based learning” represent both pedagogical emphases and community commitments. For “the university to serve as an educational, cultural and economic leader for the region,” WSU must be an active participant in regional learning endeavors and the social and economic life of the community.



For additional information about the core themes and the objectives and indicators that are associated with each core theme, visit [the University Planning](#) website.

In the next issue:

- Information for non-academic departments
- A tentative schedule of the three-day site visit