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QEP Corner

Many Thanks

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October 2020

SACSCOC and Me

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March 2021

Submit Response Report and revised QEP to SACSCOC

June 2021

SACSOC Board of Trustees votes on NCC's reaffirmation

SUCCESS
NETWORK

Supporting your power to succeed

And the Verdict Is...

Results of our reaffirmation visit

After a long weekend scramble to fulfill last minute interview requests, our on-site reaffirmation visit started on October 26 at 9:30 am and ended at 10:15 am on October 29. In all, there were 30 separate meetings, presentations, or interviews from start to finish with lots of Team Nash members asked to participate along the way. In addition to employees, students and Board members also participated in the interview process. The review included areas of non-compliance from our off-site report, standards required for on-site review by the US Department of Education, review of our off-site instructional locations, and a comprehensive evaluation of our Quality Enhancement Plan.

Compliance Findings

The final committee report found us compliant with all aspects of the standards other than the QEP. This is great news for all of the hard work in all areas of the institution. Remember that the compliance standards touch all aspects of our institution: instruction, finance, facilities, financial aid, admissions, registrar's office, library, tutorial services, institutional effectiveness, outcomes assessment, Board operations, mission, administration, organization, Foundation,

personnel, employment policies, professional development, academic freedom, student achievement, program structure/organization/content, academic policies, publication of institutional information, records management, faculty governance, distance education, complaint procedures, student services, substantive change, representation to other accrediting agencies, and more. There were many moving parts, including thousands of pages of supporting documentation, used to demonstrate our compliance with these standards. It is very rewarding to see the team recognize our efforts.

Recommendations

For the QEP compliance standard, the committee had three recommendations regarding focus of the project, capacity of the institution to implement the plan, and assessment of the plan. Since this year was designated as the pilot year with implementation to begin next year, many aspects of these recommendations were details that the QEP committee intended all along would be fleshed out this year. We will receive the final written report from the committee within the next 2 weeks to help us determine the best course of action to move forward to compliance. 😊



Keep on the lookout for our rescheduled *QEP and Me* Professional Development as we learn more about success coaching and our roles in the implementation of our QEP.

Lots of Thanks

Many people are to thank for participating in interviews with the SACSCOC team. Some were asked with less than 24 hours' notice as the schedule and requests shifted throughout the weekend and week. When you see any of the following people, be sure to thank them for their time and grace under pressure: Gary Blackburn, Jay Manning, Levy Brantley (high school student), Alexis Campos-Martinez (high school student), Tammie Clark, Morgan Roberson, Sarah Prezioso, Andrea Milks, Don Sexauer, Adrienne Covington, Farley Phillips, Dina Pitt, Kristin Harkins, Natasha Neal, Andrew Small, Wendy Marlowe, Deana Guido, Amber Greer, Greg Quintard, Wanda Tyson, Kathy Adcox, Nakisha Floyd, Tammy Lester, Priscilla Dickens, Heather Perry, Trevor Lane, Olivia Moss, Mary Hyatt, Amanda Guy, Mike Latham, Marbeth Holmes, Jonathan Vester, Sonya Small, Daniel Moore, Jamal Pitt, Jason Rierson, Tessa Weisenborn, Renee Martinez, Elizabeth Hood, Katherine Fisher (Board member), Paul Jaber (Board member), Sonny Foster (Board member), Kathryn Davis (student), Margaret O'Brien (student), Mary Overman (student), Sarah Pearce (student), Ariana Barrios Savalza (student), Nouran Shaaban (student), Craig Williams (student), Andrea Harper, Melissa Jones, Christine Ricci, Jennifer Walston, Franchesca Battle, Reggie Cobb, Norman Cooper, Ricky Joyner, Cherie Winstead, Adam Gelo, Tywana Lawson, April Bristow-Smith, Lane Freeman. Special thanks as well to the IT team for their work to ensure proper equipment and connectivity for everyone during their interviews. ☀

More Thanks!

A final note of thanks goes to everyone who had a hand in developing the QEP. Three different committees of Team Nash members worked for three (long) years to provide leadership, analyze data, consider alternative topics, meet with interdisciplinary groups of students and employees, select a topic, and flesh out the details for a meaningful project that will enhance student success at NCC for years to come. The years of hard work, time, mental energy, and sacrifice that you put into developing the Success Network model will have a life-changing impact on our students. Special thanks to all members of the QEP teams who were able to participate in the opening QEP presentation for our SACSCOC committee. One of the visiting team members commented in the chat that it was "very creative, very impactful." Of course, the director and star of the production, Lisa Cooper, deserves a standing ovation for a job well done – not just during the visit, but for the entirety of the project.



Next Steps

What happens now that the visit is over?

You may be wondering what happens now that the on-site visit is over. While many see the on-site visit as the end of the reaffirmation journey, it is actually still an intermediate step in a multi-tiered process. Our reaffirmation is not final until the SACSCOC Board of Trustees votes in June 2021. This would have been the case regardless of whether or not we had any recommendation.

Response Report

Because we did have recommendations on the QEP, the next step in the process is the writing of a Response Report. The Success Network team will take the report from the on-site committee and prepare a narrative response to each of the recommendations on the QEP project. In addition, a modified QEP will be submitted to SACSCOC to incorporate any changes made as a result of the recommendations. The Response Report is due 5 months from the exit interview, so March 29 would be the final deadline.

Board of Trustees Vote

The SACSCOC Board of Trustees meets in June and December each year. They will review the updated information that we provide and make a determination of our reaffirmation next June. There are several actions that can come from this vote: reaffirmed; reaffirmed with a monitoring report; or deny reaffirmation and place on sanctions (for institutions remaining non-compliant with a core requirement).

Fifth Year Interim Report

Once upon a time, the SACSCOC process only involved the decennial visit, and there was no additional monitoring in between. The Department of Education did not consider this to be sufficient, so the Fifth Year Interim Report was added along with the QEP Impact Report. Only 22 of the standards are evaluated as part of the Fifth Year Report so it is a much smaller scale report than the decennial. The QEP Impact Report gives us a chance to evaluate and celebrate the success that we know our plan will have over the next 5 years. Our Fifth Year Report and QEP Impact Report will be due in 2026.

Continuous Improvement

Continuous improvement is at the heart of the SACSCOC process. There are major hurdles behind us that we cleared as we demonstrated the high quality work of Team Nash. That work is never completed. The secret to success in reaffirmation lies in the work that we do EVERY DAY to ensure that our operations are the best they can be for our students. Outcomes assessment reports will continue every year. Program and service reviews will continue every 3 years. Provision of services to students will continue and expand to meet the needs of our student body. Operations will continue at the highest caliber and with attention to detail. Policies will be developed and modified to ensure integrity of our practice. We were not recognized for excellence one time in one report; we excelled at this report because of the excellence we show each and every day. ◇



On Finishing...

Start strong, stay strong, and finish strong by always remembering why you're doing it in the first place.

--Ralph Marston



final thoughts...

