NWCCU Accreditation Steering Committee  
January 24, 2011, 8:00 a.m.  Greenan Board Room

Attendees:
Michael Herzog, Chair  Jane Hession  Angela Ruff
John Eliason  Dennis Horn  Ken Sammons
John Fitzgibbons, S.J.  Patricia Killen  Kathryn Shearer
(by phone)  Victoria Loveland  Joanne Smieja
Theresa Gee  Marty Martin  John Spencer
Chris Gill  Pat McCormick  Margot Stanfield
Heather Gores  Julie McCulloh  Patricia Terry
Nolan Grady  Chuck Murphy  Jolanta Weber
Paul Hastings  Heather Murray
Michael Hazel  Raymond Reyes

The Chair expressed his gratitude to committee members for agreeing to serve; this was followed by introductions of all present.

A schedule for the next month that allows for two revisions of the First Year Report in time for the March 1, 2011 deadline was handed out:

Further input to Committee Chair  January 30th
Revised report returned to Committee Members  February 4th
Further suggestions to Committee Chair  February 13th
Revised report returned to Committee Members  February 18th
Final report mailed to NWCCU  February 24th
Final report due at NWCCU  March 1

Committee members were asked for substantive details to fill out the draft—line editing should be reserved for the second revision.

The Core Themes for this accreditation cycle were developed by the ALO, the AVP and the President, vetted by the deans, revised in response to NWCCU suggestions, and approved by the Trustees in December, with the understanding that they would be carried out in accord with our first, more detailed version. Committee members are asked to send revisions in WORD “Comment” (Track Changes option).

The Third Year Report will drill down into more detail.

Committee members are encouraged to consult the NWCCU website for more information on the five standards, etc.

The Commission has scheduled the Third Year Site Visit for April 23-25, 2012.

The NWCCU process is meant to help us be accountable; it is data-driven, and it seeks a candid, concise report.

This committee is the “think tank” for our process; as we proceed, committee members may be asked to chair sub-committees and write portions of our reports.

Indirect and direct measurements were defined.

A website for the accreditation process is being created in order to keep the GU community informed.

President McCulloh joined us and expressed his gratitude for the committee members’ service. He acknowledged his role in the Commission’s change to a 7-year cycle that would better serve the institutions being assessed; this revised process presents an opportunity for continuous improvement in what we offer our students, in defining our mission, and in clarifying intentions and directions. He expressed his support for our work and his willingness to provide any assistance we might need from him.

A time grid will be sent to the committee to facilitate the creation of a monthly meeting schedule for the foreseeable future.