The SACSCOC Reaffirmation Process

• **STAGE 1: The Off-Site Process**
  
  • Institution Submits Compliance Certification
    • [September 10, 2019]
  
  • Off-Site Review Committee
    • 9 or 10 members
    • Spend 2 weeks on each of 3 institutions
    • Conference calls, emails, SharePoint, but no interaction with institution
    • Meet in Atlanta [November 5-8, 2019]
  
  • Outcome: “Preliminary Findings”
    • [November 19, 2019]
The SACSCOC Reaffirmation Process

• STAGE 2: The On-Site Process

  • Institution Submits
    • Focused Report (responses to off-site preliminary report)
    • Quality Enhancement Plan
      • [6 weeks before visit – by mid-February, 2020]

  • On-Site Review Committee
    • Generally 7-9 members
    • E-mails, conference calls, possible interaction with institution

  • Institution Hosts On-Site Visit [March 30-April 2, 2020]
    • We will reach out to board members to see if a few would be available to meet with review team.

  • Outcome: Report of the Reaffirmation Committee [draft within a few weeks – final in a month or so after visit]
The SACSCOC Reaffirmation Process

• STAGE 3: Commission Action
  • Institution Submits Response to the Report
    • [5 months after visit: September 2, 2020]
  • Compliance & Reports Committee (of BOT)
  • Outcomes:
    • Commission Action [December, 2020]
      (upcoming changes in disclosure statements—June 2019)
    • Action Letter [January 2021]
Results of Off-Site Review

• 73 Standards – some have multiple sections
• 12 Non-Compliant
• Below the mean of 15 and the median of 14 from the southern association 2018 cohort
• Most of the non-compliant standards just need more evidence that we do what we say we do
• Address these issues in written report to on-site committee by mid-February
Focused Report Items

• 4.2c CEO Evaluation and Selection (evidence)
• 5.4 Qualified Administrative/Academic Officers (evidence)
• 6.2 Faculty Qualifications (evidence)
• 8.2b Student Outcomes: General Education (Distance Learning)
• 8.2c Student Outcomes: Academic and Student Services (missing services)
• 9.6 Post-baccalaureate Rigor and Curriculum (evidence)
• 10.4 Academic Governance: Role of Faculty Senate (explain & document)
Focused Report Items

• 11.1 Library and Learning/Information Resources (collection development and distance learning)
• 11.3 Library and Learning/Information Access (library instruction and distance learning)
• 13.2 Financial Documents (2018 Audit not ready; evidence budget timeline)
• 13.6 Federal and State Responsibilities (Single Audit report for 2017 & 2019)
• 13.8 Institutional Environment (policies and evidence safety student labs and disposal of hazardous waste)
Additional Observations Regarding Strengths and Weaknesses of the Institution

• The Off-Site Reaffirmation Committee commends the institution for its robust efforts in faculty development, including the Center for Teaching Innovation.
On-Site Visit Standards of Special Interest

• 12 Non-Compliant
• 6.5 Faculty Development (better document resources and funding for faculty travel)
• 12.1 Student Support Services (make sure all services are included)
• 13.5 Control of Sponsored Research/External Funds (Audit Form A133)
• 13.7 Physical Resources (evidence of technology structure)
On-Site Visit Standards of Special Interest

Core (Federal) Requirements must be examined on-site

• 1.1 Integrity
• 2.1 Institutional Mission
• 3.1 Degree Granting Authority
• 4.1 Governing Board Characteristics
• 5.1 Chief Executive Officer
• 6.1 Full-time Faculty
• 7.1 Institutional Planning
On-Site Visit Standards of Special Interest

- 8.1 Student Achievement
- 9.1 Program Content
- 9.2 Program Length
- 9.3 General Education Requirements
- 11.1 Library and Learning/Information Resources
- 12.1 Student Support Services
- 13.1 Financial Resources
- 13.2 Financial Documents
In preparation for March 30 – April 2 Campus Visit

• BOT will receive the complete narrative addressing the Standards before the March BOT meeting
• Staff will highlight relevant key components of our responses to the standards at the March meeting

General discussion of:

• Standard 4.1 – Governing Board Characteristics
• Standard 7.1 – Institutional Planning
• Standard 7.3 – Quality Enhancement Plan