

**CAL U**

**CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY**  
OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# MIDDLE STATES SELF-STUDY VISIT Educational Session

February-March  
2020

[calu.edu](http://calu.edu)

# MIDDLE STATES EVALUATION PROCESS

Four inter-related phases:

- **Self-study design** approved by Middle States.
- **Self-study** conducted and submitted by the institution.
- **Compliance Report** prepared and submitted by the institution.
- **Peer review** conducted by an evaluation team.

# DOCUMENT PREPARATION

- Cal U Self-Study Design
- Cal U Self-Study
- Digital Evidence Inventory
- Compliance Report

## ACCREDITATION DEFINED

- MSCHE accreditation is an expression of confidence in an institution's mission and goals, its performance, its resources, its compliance with federal laws, and its eligibility to receive federal and state funds.
- Based upon the results of institutional review by trained peer reviewers assigned by the Commission, accreditation attests to the judgement of the Commission on Higher Education that an institution has met the following criteria:

## Accreditation Criteria

- Has a mission appropriate to higher education,
- Is guided by well-defined and appropriate goals for student learning,
- Has established conditions and procedures under which its mission and goals can be achieved,
- Assesses both institutional effectiveness and student learning outcomes, using the results for incremental improvements,

## Accreditation Criteria (cont'd)

- Is accomplishing its mission and goals substantially,
- Is organized, staffed, and supported so that it can be expected to continue to accomplish its mission and goals,
- Is compliant with all criteria within the seven MSCHE Standards of Accreditation, and
- Meets the 15 MSCHE Requirements of Affiliation

# MSCHE STANDARDS OF ACCREDITATION

**Standard I:** Mission and Goals

**Standard II:** Ethics and Integrity

**Standard III:** Design and Delivery of the Student Learning Experience

**Standard IV:** Support of the Student Experience

**Standard V:** Educational Effectiveness Assessment

**Standard VI:** Planning, Resources and Institutional Improvements

**Standard VII:** Governance, Leadership and Administration

# SELF-STUDY ORGANIZATION

- **Executive Summary**
- **Standard I:** Mission and Goals
- **Standard II:** Ethics and Integrity
- **Standard III:** Design and Delivery of the Student Experience
- **Standard IV:** Support of the Student Experience
- **Standard V:** Educational Effectiveness Assessment
- **Standard VI:** Planning, Resources and Institutional Improvement
- **Standard VII:** Governance, Leadership and Administration
- **Conclusion**
- **Appendix**



## Self-Study Writing Teams

Organizational Structure	Standard I Mission & Goals	Standard II Ethics & Integrity	Standard III Design/Delivery of the Student Experience	Standard IV Support of the Student Experience	Standard V Ed Effectiveness Assessment	Standard VI Planning, Resources & Institutional Improvement	Standard VII Governance, Leadership & Administration
<b>Co-Chair Faculty/Staff</b>	Scott Hargraves	Sheri Boyle	Sarah Downey	Nancy Pinardi (Cabinet)	Holiday Adair	Richard LaRosa	Jason Kight
<b>Co-Chair Administration</b>	Steve Whitehead	Lawrence Sebek	Doug Hoover	Dan Engstrom & Ryan James	Kevin Koury	Robert Thorn (Cabinet)	Bruce Barnhart (Cabinet)
<b>Faculty (S&amp;T)</b>		Tom Wickham	Thomas Wickham	Chadwick Hanna	Kimberly Woznack	Ed Matecki	Ghassan Salim
<b>Faculty (LA)</b>	Cassandra Kuba	Craig Fox	Michele Pagen	Mathilda Spencer	Scott Lloyd	James Bove	Andria Cencich
<b>Faculty (EDHS)</b>	Rebecca Maddas	Pamela Twiss	Diane Fine	Laura Giachetti	Elizabeth Gruber	Marcia Hoover	Silvia Braidic
<b>*.*</b>	Jean Hale	Gregory Davis	Barry McGlumphy	William Meloy	Matt Price	Adam Gill	Becky McMillen & Robert Mehalik
<b>Student Affairs</b>	Terry Wigle	Dawn Moeller	Diane Hasbrouck	Nancy Skobel	James Pflugh	Jamison Roth	Melissa Dunn
<b>SUA</b>	Ryan Barnhart	Barry Bilitski	Dori Eichelberger	Julie Osekowski & Lisa Glasser	Mandy Schnorr	Kevin Eggleston	Sheleta Camarda-Webb
<b>Student</b>	<b>Commuter Council</b> (P) Claire Pendergact  (VP) Caroline Jeffries	<b>BSA</b> Selena Montijo (Res Hall Asst.)  Destiny Swan (Greek Life)  Thomas Zupan (VP Comp. Club)	<b>S Athletic Council</b> Chad Livingston (Football)  Madeleine McKenna (Volleyball)	<b>S Activities Board</b> Miranda Anderson  Edward Kuntz	<b>Grad Office</b> Susan Fancsali <b>SAI Grad Rep.</b> Jordan Lockhart	<b>I Res Hall Council</b> (P) Sydney Holley (VP) Reginald Surpris	<b>SGA</b> Seth Shiley  Amanda Considine

## Visiting Committee Members

- Could approach anyone – faculty they meet in an elevator, students having lunch, staff whom they visit during meetings or meals and ask them what they know about the MSCHE accreditation process, and if they were directly involved.
- Learn more about the process; visit our Accreditation Website: <https://www.calu.edu/calu-difference/accreditation/index.aspx> and review the *self-study deign document*, the *self-study*, and read *updates* about Cal U's self-study process.

- If you see evaluation team members, make them feel welcome but realize that they are extremely busy.
- If you are meeting with an evaluation team member, provide all the information requested.
- Be open and honest in answering the questions asked by the evaluation team. This relates to Standard II, Ethics & Integrity, something on which we are assessed during the visit.
- Understand and be able to describe our assessment processes (annual, program review, and General Education); Visit our Assessment Website: <https://www.calu.edu/inside/faculty-staff/assessment/index.aspx>

- Avoid airing personal grievances or complaining about individuals. This is about process, not personalities.
- Never give the evaluation team unrequested notes or documents.
- Don't dodge questions about problems or weaknesses. Inform the team member we know and are incrementally improving them through our assessment processes; provide examples if possible.
- We don't have "NEW" assessment processes (annual, General Education, program review). They have been "revised" or "improved" based on our assessment of previous processes.

## VISITING TEAM

**Chair:** Dr. Kathryn A. Foster, President, College of New Jersey

**Members:** Ms. Tracey Amy, Pennsylvania College of Technology

Dr. Barbara E. Bender, Rutgers University

Dr. Anuradhaa Shastri, SUNY College at Oneonta

Dr. Maurice C. Taylor, Morgan State University

Dr. Lori Ann Vermeulen, Stockton University

Dr. Amitra A. Wall, SUNY Buffalo

Mr. Leon L. Wyden Jr., Frostburg State University

**Observer:** Dr. Donna Wilson, Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education



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# CAMPUS VISIT DATES

Sunday, March 22

to

Wednesday, March 25

## **SUNDAY, MARCH 22**

Welcome reception with Middle States Steering Committee.

## **MONDAY, MARCH 23**

- Team meets faculty/staff/Adm. as requested by team chair.
- Team meets with students for lunch.
- Open meetings with faculty and staff.
- Team may request additional meetings Monday evening.

## TUESDAY, MARCH 24

- Team meets faculty/staff/Adm. as requested by team chair.

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

- Team chair reads team's draft report to the community, 9:30 a.m. in the President's Conference Room.  
*No questions allowed; no audio, photos or video permitted.*



# TEAM REPORT: For Each Standard

Strengths

Suggestions

Recommendations or Requirements

(Potential Areas of Non-compliance)

*There should be no surprises; this is language in the self-study report. The reading confirms that the evaluation team found the same state of affairs as Cal U reported in its self-study.*

# TEAM REPORT

## Words to listen for:

- Recommendations – Less severe.
- Requirements – More severe.

## Etiquette:

- No questions before, during or after the report.
- No audio, photos or video recording permitted.

## NEXT STEPS

- Within two or three weeks, the team chair sends the report to the institution to check for factual errors.
- Team chair defends the report to MSCHE.
- MSCHE takes action in June 2020.
- Cal U receives letter in July 2020 on accreditation status.

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**QUESTIONS?**

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