Presentation

BOT – 2  Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) Accreditation Update

Background Information

Every ten years, institutions accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) must “reaffirm” their accreditation. UNCG is currently undergoing the reaffirmation process, which requires demonstration of compliance with multiple accreditation standards and development of a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) focused on improving specific student learning outcomes and/or student success.

In October 2023, the Board of Trustees heard a presentation on Spartans Thrive, UNCG’s current QEP, from co-authors Regina McCoy, Associate Vice Provost for Retention and Student Success, and Dr. Jill Beville, Director of UNCG Recreation and Wellness. Building on that presentation, Dr. Jodi Pettazzoni, Associate Vice Provost and Director of Assessment, will provide an update on the status of the Reaffirmation process.
UNC Greensboro’s Accreditation

- UNCG’s accrediting body is the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).
- Institutions conduct a full reaffirmation review every 10 years.
  - Interim review happens every 5 years, with an abbreviated set of standards.
- UNCG was approved for a “differentiated review,” meaning we were required to respond only to a subset of standards.
UNC Greensboro’s Accreditation

The purpose of accreditation is for an institution to demonstrate

1. Effectiveness in fulfillment of its mission
2. Compliance with requirements of SACSCOC
3. Continuing efforts to enhance the quality of student learning, programs, and services
UNC Greensboro’s Accreditation

The Higher Education Act has connected federal student aid to institutional accreditation since 1965.

The University of North Carolina System requires that an institution maintain its accreditation.
Reaffirmation Review Steps

- Compliance Certification preparation (UNCG) ✓
- Off-Site Reaffirmation Review & Report (SACSCOC) ✓
- Focused Report and Quality Enhancement Plan submission (UNCG) ✓
- On-Site Reaffirmation Review & Report (SACSCOC) 🟢
- Response to the Visiting Committee preparation (UNCG)
  - Reaffirmed, Monitored, or Sanctioned
- SACSCOC Board of Trustees decision
On-Site Reaffirmation Committee

- Meets with representatives of our campus to address non-compliance, federal regulations, and governance practices.
- Conducts a deep evaluation of our Quality Enhancement Plan.
- Tours the main campus and off-campus sites at NC A&T and JSNN.
On-Site Review – Federal Requirements

- Qualified Administrative/Academic Officers
- Student Achievement
- Program Coordination
- Student Outcomes: Educational Programs
- Program Content
- Program Length
- General Education Requirements
- Public Information
- Admissions Policies and Practices
- Distance and Correspondence Education
- Policies for Awarding Credit
- Student Support Services
- Federal and State Responsibilities
- Physical Resources
- Student Complaints
- Publication of Accreditation Status
- Policies for Awarding Credit
- Comprehensive Institutional Reviews
On-Site Review – Non-Compliance

- Full-time Faculty
- Program Faculty
- Faculty Qualifications
- Financial Documents *
- Representation to Other Agencies

*Board of Trustees actions noted
Agenda for the Committee, Mar. 18-21

- **Monday** – Visit off-campus sites, interview program faculty & students
- **Tuesday**
  - Review the QEP, Spartans Thrive
  - Meet with Board of Trustees Chair, Vice Chair, and CARL Committee Chair
  - Meet with students and faculty
  - Conduct interviews related to non-compliance and federal requirements
- **Wednesday** – Finish interviews and draft the report
- **Thursday** – Exit interview
End results

- We will prepare a Response Report for SACSCOC, addressing any non-compliance concerns.
  - Due in August 2024

- We will hear from the SACSCOC Board about reaffirmation at the Annual Meeting in December 2024.
Questions?

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