Accreditation Update

Criterion 1: Mission

PURPOSE

This series of newsletters reviewed the Higher Learning Commission’s Guiding Values for accreditation, the Criteria for Accreditation, and the Assumed Practices for all accredited institutions. These documents define the objectives and criteria that will guide the team of peer reviewers who will visit Indiana University Southeast during the 2019-20 academic year.

CRITERION 1: MISSION

The first of the five criteria requires that “The institution’s mission is clear and articulated publicly; it guides the institution’s operations.”

The Indiana University Southeast mission is:

“Indiana University Southeast is the regional campus of Indiana University that serves Southern Indiana and the Greater Louisville metropolitan area. As a public comprehensive university, its mission is to provide high-quality educational programs and services that promote student learning and prepare students for productive citizenship in a diverse society, and to contribute to the intellectual, cultural, and economic development of the region. Its academic programs include a comprehensive array of baccalaureate degrees and a selected set of master's programs.

The campus is committed to offering educational programs and services which promote and support diversity in all its aspects. The faculty engage in research and creative activities which strengthen teaching and learning through inquiry into both the content and the pedagogy of the disciplines and create opportunities for students to engage in applied learning. Finally, members of the campus community are committed to using their professional and personal expertise to address the intellectual, cultural, and economic development needs of the campus’s service region.”

SOURCES OF EVIDENCE

The mission asserts that we will provide “high-quality educational programs and services that promote student learning and prepare students for productive citizenship in a diverse society”. Because the culture of accreditation has increasingly become the culture of evidence, members of the Accreditation Planning Committee are compiling such evidence in things such as the performance of our students, the recognition of our peers, and the evaluation of specialized accreditation bodies or professional societies.

The HLC requires that institutions provide evidence across all applicable units that support the accreditation criteria. The main evidence for this broad criterion is the publication of our mission on the university webpage here: https://www.ius.edu/about-southeast/mission-vision-values.php.

Future newsletters will dig deeper into each core component of each criterion. These newsletters will be informative, but will also ask you—the campus community—to provide evidence in support of these criteria. If you are aware of things that you’d like to bring to their attention regarding criterion one, please feel free to send those observations and bits of data to iusehlc@ius.edu.

To see the IU Southeast Statement of Accreditation Status on the HLC webpage, please click here.

To see all HLC Criteria for Accreditation and Core Components, please click here.

To see a list of IU Southeast Accreditation Committee members, please click here.