

Continuous Improvement Review under the 2013 Standards: School Perspectives

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Southwestern Business Deans' Association



COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

LAMAR UNIVERSITY™

Specifics of our CIR Process

- Visit is scheduled for November 2016
- Work on accreditation issues is always on-going
- Involve most of the College in the process
- Accreditation activities managed by Director of Accreditation and Assessment (50% position, full-time, tenured faculty member)
- Activities directed by Accreditation and Assessment Committee with regular reports to the Executive Committee and the College faculty and staff as a whole
- Early contact and feedback from team chair



Mission and Strategic Plan Revisions

- Mission Revision 2013-2014
 - Adequacy
 - Distinctiveness; capture our spirit
 - Input from all stakeholders
 - Revised learning goals as needed; tight integration
 - Revised assessment strategies and plans
- Strategic Plan Revision/Development Spring/Summer 2015
 - Fully participative process with input from all stakeholders
 - Driven by Mission and consistent with Lamar University Mission and Strategic Plan (revised February 2015)
 - Revised governance structure to include strategic activity in the day-to-day workings of the College

Preparation for Team Chair Visit

- Development of Draft of CIR report (Summer/Fall 2015)
 - Develop Mission Codes and ask faculty to assign their activities to specific mission codes
 - Definitions of three pillars for the College
 - Collect data from faculty on activities relating to three pillars; “tell our story”
 - Quality measures for portfolio of intellectual contributions (Table 2-1, C)
 - Review and reaffirm Assessment Plan for 2015-16
 - Full College meeting to discuss progress and review draft



Team Chair Visit

- Visit from Team Chair (January 2016)
 - Full, complete draft of CIR report delivered in early January using 2014-15 data
 - Agenda developed with team chair to simulate the visit (arrive at 1 pm, depart at noon following day)
 - Met with appropriate committees, including an initial meeting on three pillars
 - Meeting with all faculty and staff
 - Evening meal with selected members of boards and community
 - Debrief with dean and director of accreditation and assessment
 - Plan for next steps



Preparation for Visit

- Update draft of CIR report for 2015-16 data and current 5-year period- May/June 2016
- Report due to Team and AACSB – September 6 2016
- Prepare visit agenda, travel arrangements, workspace accommodations- September
- Prepare materials for review by team on site (September/October)
 - Faculty and staff qualifications and sufficiency materials
 - Teaching effectiveness
 - Mission and strategic plan instruments
 - Curriculum
 - Assurance of learning
 - Three pillars
 - Executive Education
- Faculty and staff retreat- October



General Observations

- Work with the team chair early and often. A visit from the team chair is imperative. A complete draft of the CIR report is a must.
- Schools must work to develop a formal definition and implementation for student and faculty engagement, innovation and impact.
- The tie between mission, strategic planning and learning goals needs to be clear and strong.

General Observations

- Discussions of sufficiency of professional staff should be included in the CIR report. Some (or even most) of the professional staff might not be on the school's payroll
- Evidence of professional development for the professional staff of the school must be documented in the CIR report.