BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT GREENSBORO

September 6, 2012

INFORMATION ITEM: SACS Update

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:
A status report will be presented on UNCG preparation for reaccreditation in 2014. Many faculty, staff, and administrators across campus are engaged in creating the Compliance Certification, which is the comprehensive document supporting UNCG’s case for reaccreditation. There are other steps that will follow. This status report will provide the timeline for this multi-stage process, a current status report on how the process is moving, a significant challenge that have been identified, and the plan for addressing that challenge.

David H. Perrin
Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor
UNCG SACS Reaffirmation Timeline

**Spring 2012**
- Assign responsibility for each standard
- Conduct audit of current status of each standard
- Begin drafting responses

**Summer 2012**
- Continue drafting responses
- Gather supporting documentation
- Initiate creation or revision of policies and procedures when appropriate
- Finalize approximately 10 responses

**Fall 2012**
- Continue drafting responses
- Complete policies and procedures
- Finalize approximately 60 additional responses
- Begin Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) topic identification

**Spring 2013**
- Finalize all but two or three responses: General Education, Administrative Assessment, Academic Assessment
- Finalize QEP topic selection

**Summer 2013**
- Finalize all responses
- Produce final product in electronic form
- Begin to develop the full QEP

**Fall 2013**
- Send Compliance Certification to SACS by Sept. 10
- Finish development of QEP
- Receive initial evaluation of our report in the form of "recommendations"

**Spring 2014**
- Respond to recommendations in January
- Submit complete QEP
- Host On-site Visiting Committee March 18-20
- Receive remaining "recommendations"

**Summer 2014**
- Respond to recommendations of the On-site Visiting Committee

**Fall 2014**
- Receive decision about reaffirmation on Dec. 9, 2014
General Education Assessment Plan Timeline

Spring 2011
- Define a faculty-driven assessment process for the General Education program
  - Developed by faculty, for faculty

Fall 2011
- Faculty piloted an assessment process on 5 courses.

Spring 2012
- Faculty applied the revised process to a sample of a small part of the Gen Ed Program courses.
- Volunteer faculty applied the process to a collection of student work from those same courses to validate the results.

Fall 2012
- Results of Spring 2012 assessment will be shared in open forums to discuss results and actions.
- Faculty will apply the process to a sample of more of the Gen Ed Program courses.
- Assessment will be conducted differently for Natural Science and Math.

Spring 2013
- Results of Fall 2012 will be shared in open forums to discuss results and actions. These discussions will include Natural Science and Math results.
- Faculty will apply the process to a sample of more of the Gen Ed Program courses.

Ongoing
- Assessment processes will have to be ongoing, to ensure the intent of the Gen Ed Program is being met.
Update on UNCG’s SACS Reaffirmation

Sept. 6, 2012

Provost David Perrin & Dr. Jodi Pettazzoni
Regional Accréditor: SACSCOC

• SACS and Accreditation defined
• Timeline for Reaccreditation (Reaffirmation)
• To-do List
• Progress Report
• Status Report
Regional Accrreditor: SACSCOC

- UNCG is regionally accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges
  - The “southern” region

- (Other regions: New England, Middle States, North Central, North West, Western)
Purpose of Regional Accreditation

• **Federal and state support and funding**
  – Our students are not eligible for federal financial aid if we are not accredited.
  – The University cannot get state support if it’s not accredited.

• **Quality assurance**
  – “Institutional effectiveness” runs throughout the accreditation standards/principles.

• **Ease of student credit transfers**
  – Most institutions won’t (or can’t) accept credits from non-accredited institutions.

• **Legitimacy as a higher education institution**
Timeline

• 2 years approximately from start to finish
  – We are about 6 months into the process
• Report is due on September 10, 2013
  – QEP is an exception to this
• Onsite Visit occurs in spring 2014
  – Tentative dates are March 18-20, 2014
• Decision from the Commission delivered December 9, 2014
To-Do List

- 97 Standards to which UNCG must respond
  - Multiple layers of internal and external reviews before submission
- Creation of the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)
  - 2 additional standards relate to the QEP
- Address gaps
Progress Report

- We have drafts for 66 of the 97 standards as of Aug. 10.
  - We are meeting regularly with writers of the unfinished drafts.
- Many activities are under way to address gaps
  - Policy to require faculty credential verification prior to first day in the classroom
  - General Education Assessment
- We have the technology in place to compile responses and supporting evidence
Status Report

• Historical areas of challenge:
  – Substantive change (yellow)
  – General education assessment (red)

• New challenge:
  – QEP (uncharted territory)
• A General Education assessment plan was devised in 2008, but was not followed
  – Small sample of data gathered one time, and no actions taken toward improvement.
• New plan is in place
  – Ensures assessment of all student learning outcomes.
  – Ensures multiple cycles of data and its use.
Summary

- We believe we know what needs to be done to complete the 97 standards.
- We have a project plan to keep moving forward.
- There is work to be done to ensure compliance with all standards, and we may be out of compliance with at least one.
- There is a separate committee leading the QEP.
- We anticipate reaffirmation without monitoring in December 2014.