



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON

Division of Academic Affairs

Office of Academic Programs

P.O. Box 6850, Fullerton, CA 92834-6850 / T 657-278-3602 / F 657-278-7238

WASC Interim Report Preparation Plan and Timeline

March 2014

I. WASC RECOMMENDATIONS

The 2012 WASC reaffirmation of institutional accreditation by the WASC Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities requires the university to submit an Interim Report in spring 2015, which addresses four specific recommendations. The recommendations are as follows:

1. Engaging with the integrated strategic plan
 - a. Setting priorities.
 - b. Establishing metrics and indicators of quality/milestones.
 - c. Achieving consistency across extant planning documents.
 - d. Aligning the plan with budgetary allocations.
 - e. Demonstrate how the university is giving priority to finalizing and following a plan that is fully developed, dynamic, and yet attentive to the institutional culture.
 - f. Show linkage of plan implementation to the CSU Online Initiative and growth on the CSUF's Irvine campus. (CFRs 1.3, 4.1-4.3, 4.7 and 4.8).
2. Assessing and improving student learning
 - a. Demonstrate evidence of the alignment of learning outcomes at all levels of the university, including general education.
 - b. Further development of comprehensive annual assessment reports and PPRs.
 - c. Creation of a mechanism for tracking improvements in student learning, pedagogy, and sharing best practices in assessment.
 - d. Continued coordination, monitoring and support for institution-wide assessment (CFRs 1.2, 2.3-2.7.4, 4.6-4.8).
3. Advancing student advising and improving graduation rates
 - a. Analyze academic advising in the colleges for best practices.
 - b. Create closer connections between the colleges and the Academic Advisement center.
 - c. Provide more adequate staff and resources at all levels (CFRs 2.6, 2.12-2.14).
4. Addressing ongoing state funding challenges
 - a. Continue managing reductions in such a way that educational effectiveness remains a priority.
 - b. Report on the ways in which it is addressing this challenge in its next interaction with WASC. (CFR 3.5, 4.1-4.3).

The Interim Report should contain information that demonstrates the university's progress on each of the four recommendations since July 2012 when the Commission reaffirmed the institution's accreditation.

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II. PREPARING THE WASC INTERIM REPORT

WASC recommends as follows: “Because of the focused nature of an Interim Report, the widespread and comprehensive involvement of various institutional constituencies is not normally required.” However, “Faculty, administrative staff, and others should be involved as appropriate to the topics being addressed in the preparation of the report.”

Consistent with the university’s commitment to collaboration and shared governance, there will be a WASC Interim Report Steering Committee to guide the preparation of the Interim Report. Sub-committees for each of the four areas of the Commission’s recommendations will be established to prepare the report for each area. Faculty, administrative staff, and students will be included in each sub-committee based on the appropriateness of the individuals to the focus area being addressed in the Interim Report. The AVP of Academic Programs will consult with the Academic Senate Executive Committee, Council of Deans and Division Heads prior to presenting his recommendations for appointments to the sub-committees to the Provost and President.

The Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Vice President for Student Affairs, Associate Vice President for Academic Programs/ALO, Chair of the Academic Senate, Director of Assessment and Educational Effectiveness, and the chairs of each of the sub-committees will serve on the WASC Interim Report Steering Committee (9 members). The Provost is chair of the WASC Interim Report Steering Committee. The Director of Assessment and Educational Effectiveness will serve as staff person for the Steering Committee.

The WASC Interim Report Steering Committee will prepare the draft Interim Report, which includes organizing the reports from each sub-committee into one coherent draft Interim Report. *The draft Interim Report will include the following eight sections: cover sheet, institutional context, statement on report preparation, response to issues addressed by the Commission, identification of other changes and issues currently facing the institution, concluding statement, required documentation, and additional documentation required ONLY for Interim reports with financial issues.*

The Steering Committee will share the draft Interim Report with campus constituencies. Campus constituencies, such as the Academic Senate, the Council of Deans, the Provost Cabinet, and the President’s Cabinet, will review the draft Interim Report, and provide feedback to the WASC Interim Report Steering Committee. The final Interim Report will incorporate recommended changes based on feedback received from campus constituencies, before submission to WASC.

Questions concerning the preparation of the Interim Report should be directed to the university’s Accreditation Liaison Office (ALO), who will contact the university’s designated WASC staff liaison, if additional clarification or information is needed.

III. INTERIM REPORT TIMELINE

[See the attached](#)

IV. SUB-COMMITTEES

[See the attached](#)

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