

# The State of the Commission

Presented by

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# Commission Activities

- o SACSCOC's Strategic Plan
- o On-line Training Modules
- o Competency Based Education and Direct Assessment Policy
- o Summer Institute
- o Common Definitions Among Regionals
- o Lumina and SEF Grant Activities
- o Technology Plan Update

# Commission Activities cont'd

- o Washington Update
  - o Negotiated Rulemaking for Gainful Employment
  - o Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act
  - o President's Ratings System & Completion Agenda

# Strategic Plan

# MISSION STATEMENT

*The mission of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges is to assure the educational quality and improve the effectiveness of its member institutions.*

# CORE VALUES

- o Integrity
- o Continuous Quality Improvement
- o Peer Review/Self-Regulation
- o Accountability
- o Student Learning
- o Transparency

# GOALS

- o I. To increase the visibility and enhance the image of the Commission within the regional, national, and international communities. (IMAGE)
- o II. To ensure a cadre of staff and peer evaluators and member institutions to function consistently, effectively and efficiently from a common base of knowledge. (TRAINING)

# GOALS cont'd

- o III. To enhance the operations of SACSCOC and its member institutions through planning and research. (Planning & Budgeting)
- o IV. To ensure an efficient, quality operation that advances the mission of the Commission and supports institutions in obtaining and maintaining accreditation. (Services, Technology, etc.)



# On-Line Training Modules

# MODULES

- o Finance and Physical Resources
- o The Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)
- o Institutional Effectiveness
- o Student Services
- o Governance and Administration

# Competency Based Education & Direct Assessment Policy

# Purpose and Policy

- Purpose
  - To provide guidance to institutions and evaluation committees.
- Definitions:
  - Competency
  - Competency-based Educational Program
  - Direct Assessment Program
  - Hybrid Programs

# Purpose and Policy cont'd

- o Compliance with Appropriate SACSCOC *Principles*
  - o Mission
  - o Info to Students
  - o Structure and Coherence of Program
  - o Student Admission & Eligibility
  - o Assessment of Programs & Student Learning
  - o Faculty
  - o Student Support Services

# Summer Institute on Quality Enhancement and Accreditation

# BACKGROUND

- o Began in 2005 with 400 participants
- o Focus on Institutional Effectiveness, Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment
- o 2006 and 2013 saw 700 participants each year
- o 2014
  - o New Orleans, LA
  - o 1,000 participants may register

# Common Definitions Among Regional Accrediting Agencies



# TERMS

- o In order to provide a common vocabulary for citizens to be able to understand the actions of accrediting agencies, the following terms have been defined for use among all regionals:
  - o Monitoring
  - o Warning
  - o Probation
  - o Good Cause
  - o Denial or loss of membership

# Grant Activities

# GRANTS

- Lumina Foundation for Education
  - HBCUs and the Degree Qualifications Profile
- Southern Education Foundation and Lumina
  - Small College Initiative

# Technology Plan Update

# ENHANCEMENTS

- o Updated version of SharePoint
- o Upgraded computers and monitors
- o Upgraded mobile phones for traveling staff
- o On-line training modules
- o Disaster Recovery Appliance

2014

- o Fiber Optics Installation
- o Upgraded Phone System

# 2013 Activities



# Washington Update

# ACTIVITIES

- o Negotiated Rulemaking for Gainful Employment
- o Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act
- o National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA)
- o President's Rating System
- o The Completion Agenda



# RESULTS



# Contact Information

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