

Subject: Middle States Self-Study Updates

Dear Campus Colleagues:

As we begin the 2017-2018 academic year, the Middle States Self-study is entering the second phase of this important three-year process.

Before we begin, however, we'd like to pause in gratitude for all that we accomplished this past year, much of it with the support of our representative and committed Steering Committee:

- successfully submitted the Design for Self-study as part of a lively and inspiring spring visit by our Middle States Liaison, Dr. Ellie Fogarty;
- partnered with the Jesuit Center to conduct a Summer Workshop further incorporates Ignatian discernment into the work of our Self-study; and
- recruited more than 50 faculty, staff, and students from across the campus community to serve on eight Working Groups.

To view the Design, Steering Committee and Working Group member lists, and a variety of other self-study resources, please visit www.scranton.edu/selfstudy.

During the next phase, the Working Groups will conduct research, gather evidence and analyze the results to produce the substantive reports necessary to demonstrate that the University meets Middle States' accreditation standards. As our Design notes, this Self-study will be a transparent one, so, we will bring these reports to you for your comment and review.

In addition, we will conduct three town hall discussions in September and October to give the campus community a chance to provide direct input on specific standards. See flyer attached for details and please save the dates:

- September 14, 11:30-1 p.m. (Student Learning, Support, Assessment)
- September 29, 3-4 p.m. (Mission, Goals & Ethics/Integrity)
- October 19, 11:30-1 p.m. (Planning, Governance & Compliance)

[Click here](#) to RSVP to any (or all) of these discussion forums.

Lastly, we urge all faculty and staff to take part in surveys this fall that will contribute to our Self-study:

- (September) AJCU consortium survey on mission, to which we have added a set of unique self-study reflection questions;
- (October) Survey by the Planning & Institutional Effectiveness Office about the University's [Strategic Plan](#).

Have a wonderful academic year—and thank you, in advance, for your support and participation.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Beal and Julie Schumacher Cohen
Middle States Self-Study Co-chairs