



**Assessment Advisory Council
October 1, 2015
William J. Lindsay Life Sciences Building, Room 113
3:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

In attendance: Richard Steed Alberti, Dr. Alexander Atwood, Dr. Iaroslava Babenchuk, Dr. Courtney Brewer, Elida Buitron-Navarro, Dr. Caroline Burns, Sylvia Camacho, John Cienski, Nancy Ellis, J.D., Dr. Michelle Fowler, Troy Hahn, Al Heraghty, Dr. Alex Kasiukov, Laura Levine, Lorianne Leuders-Yanotti, Dr. Annamaria Monaco, Patty Munsch, Dr. Jeffrey Pedersen, Mary Reese, Rachel Schmidt, J.D., Dr. Christopher Shults, Dr. Lauren-Tacke-Cushing, Dr. Troy Tucker, Dr. Frank Valenzisi, Christina Vargas, Melanie Weinstein-Zeolla, Susan Wood

The meeting convened at 3:45 p.m. Dr. Shults welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for approval of the minutes. The minutes from the April 30th, 2015 were accepted and approved.

Dr. Jeffrey Pedersen welcomed everyone and gave an update on what we are facing with the Middle States visit on October 5th & 6th. Dr. Pedersen reminded us that we are not on warning and that this visit is basically a follow-up meeting with Middle States who are looking for key things primarily within the academic assessment area. Middle States wants to see evidence that we are using our assessments to make changes for the better and also that we are using assessment information for budgeting and resource allocation. Middle States wants to see that what we wrote in our follow-up monitoring report, which we submitted on September 1st, is exactly what we said we were doing and that is that we are doing in academic assessment, that it is being done by faculty in the academic area and that they are engaged in the meeting and in the process.

On Monday October 5th, the Middle States visit will occur and will run all day long and on Tuesday October 6th at 10:00 am, the visiting team will present their exit report to the SCCC community which will be simulcast to the other two campuses. There will be two members from Middle States team and one representative from SUNY, Fred Hildebrand. Once the team goes back, they will formalize the report and we will have a chance to correct any facts in the report. Once it comes back to us we will get a chance to write an Institutional Response which all has to go in front of the Commission in November.

The next visit we are looking at is the Decennial, which is a two year self-study process that will be under the seven new standards and will begin in February 2016. These seven standards have been more targeted and streamlined. Dr. McKay appointed two chairpersons to head the Steering Committee and will have them and the standard co-chairs attend training down in Philadelphia next fall. Dr. Lauren Tacke-Cushing is our Middle States Liaison who will also be reaching out for people to participate. The college will also send individuals down to the annual Middle States Annual convention in December. In

addition to the standards committees, there will also be a writing committee and a logistics committee. During a Decennial visit, Middle States conducts a very intense study and looks at everything from curriculum, teaching and learning to the infrastructure including our finances. The process will start in February 2016 and will be completed for our visit in the spring of 2018. This committee, the AAC, will play an important role because they will be focusing on our assessment efforts.

Dr. Pedersen said that we have a lot of other things happening this month. Among these activities are the the Nursing Accreditation visit as well as a few other accreditation events. The SUNY Provost will be coming down with the General Counsel and the Chief Financial Officer to visit our campus. We are the first of the visits which will be made to all SUNY campuses.

Dr. Pedersen also talked about SUNY Excels, which is the systemwide performance management system based on SUNY's strategic plan, *The Power of SUNY*. The federal government has mandated that there be a performance management system put in place with all large educational systems across the country to demonstrate accountability and performance in a way that communicates a clear benefit to New York. Middle States would like to convey to the Federal Government that it holds all educational facilities to the highest of standards. Each campus will need to define campus-level outcomes that support the system-level outcomes and match the needs and their mission. This means that we must engage in predictive analytics and projections in certain areas that SUNY is interested in. The five areas include: Access, Completion, Success, and Engagement all of which already appear in our instructional goals. Inquiry, which is another area, is really about research and engagement is working with the community.

Dr. Pedersen says there are actually 36 different metrics that SUNY gave to all institutions and we have already chosen the ones we are going to focus on. SUNY wants us to predict where we are going to be with these metrics in 2018 and in 2020 and put it into a fifteen page narrative. SUNY wants to see the direct linkage aligning our institutional goals, measureable institutional objectives, Presidential Goals and the SUNY EXCEL's in a fifteen narrative by October 21, 2015. Dr. Pedersen says he will put the narrative up on the website for review and welcomes any and all commentary, suggestions, recommendations and any questions that you may have.

Dr. Christopher Shults continues to update what is happening in annual assessment and how the AAC is helping each area on how to better develop their assessments. The better the rubrics, the higher the quality and the better the assessment and the easier it will be to align everything. All the work that the AAC is doing along with the subcommittees directly impacts our Operational Planning. He also noted that according to the new timelines shared with the council, the subcommittees will be meeting in the fall to review assessments conducted during the last year and will provide a verbal report later in the fall of 2015.

Before breaking down into out subcommittees, Dr. William Tucker says that in this culture of assessment the AAC which consists of 39 members and six sub-committees continue to find what works and what doesn't work in a way we can continue to find ways of improvement. He asked for the subcommittees to break out and review the rubrics to determine if any changes are required. He and Dr. Shults assisted subcommittees with questions as they reviewed the rubrics.

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 pm.

