

Welcome back! I just have one item for this month's report; we have heard from the HLC.

HLC Report:

Just before the winter break, the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) submitted to LSSU its draft report which resulted from the October 24-26, 2011 ten-year reaccreditation visit. We had until January 10, 2012 to respond to factual errors within that report. Our response was submitted January 6, 2012.

The report is generally positive - noting that LSSU has met all the required criteria for continued accreditation. We are, however, required to report to the HLC on four items; which I've noted below. These "Monitoring Reports" are due by February 1, 2013.

Monitoring Reports:

1. A clearly defined Tenure and Promotion process aligned with the faculty collective bargaining agreement.
2. IT Strategic plan and Professional Development/Training Plan for IT personnel.
3. A university assessment plan outlining a clear process for collecting, disseminating and implementing assessment results.
4. A plan indicating how the Shared Governance model has progressed and results from the model as it has impacted the new reorganizational structure.

Very shortly, I will be contacting individuals to serve on committees to begin the process of developing plans and timelines to address these reports.

The Draft HLC Report provides further information regarding the monitoring reports. I have asked that the LSSU/HLC website be restructured to reflect the current status of our relationship with the HLC. This report and related information is available on that site (<http://www.lssu.edu/hlc/>).

I will continue to update the LSSU/HLC webpages with information regarding the status of these reports as well as provide draft and final documents regarding the new HLC accreditation model called Pathways. The most recent issuance of the new HLC criteria for accreditation (issued 12-15-2011) is available by selecting the "Pathways" link on the left side of the LSSU/HLC webpage.