

ESF Accreditation Committee

Charge, Structure, and Background

November 13, 2017

Overall Committee Purpose

The Accreditation Committee will be comprised of ESF faculty and professional staff in an effort to improve coordination and transparency of institutional assessment efforts on campus. Included in the work of this committee will be review of Middle States Commission on Higher Education reporting, institution-wide survey coordination, and establishing a unified vision of assessment and continuous improvement at SUNY ESF. Participation in this committee will present opportunities to gain a deeper understanding of accreditation expectations, an opportunity to have a voice in how assessment contributes to the story of ESF going forward, and participation in constructing assessment designs that will support external funding requests.

Specific Charge

- Work in concert with the Assistant Director for Assessment and Institutional Research to organize and advertise assessment activities on campus and fulfill Regional (MSCHE) and discipline specific accreditation requirements as needed
- Serve as a core team of professionals that recommend and support assessment and accreditation efforts in academic and administrative units
- Interact with General Education Task Force, Government and External Relations, Committee on Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity, the Student Life Committee of Academic Governance, and various academic departments and administrative units for the purpose of identifying assessment needs across campus
- Coordinate and oversee institution-wide assessment efforts, such as the NSSE, SUNY SOS, COACHE, and other nationally benchmarked satisfaction surveys sponsored by SUNY system administration and SUNY ESF leadership and to align them with accreditation requirements as appropriate
- Advise, assist, and promote the development of assessment plans for academic and administrative units, and help unify these efforts for the purpose of promoting a consistent vision of institutional assessment at ESF in order to support accreditation requirements
- Collaborate to review and oversee other matters related to accreditation and assessment efforts on campus as appropriate

Committee Membership

The proposed Accreditation Committee will be comprised of the following members:

- Chair: Assistant Director of Assessment & Institutional Research
- A representative for the Provost and Executive Vice President
- A representative from the Division of Student Affairs
- A representative from the Office of Instruction & Graduate Studies
- A representative from the Research Office

Background: Need for Accreditation Committee

Campus Assessment at ESF is maturing in a way that invites a diverse, cross-disciplinary group to meet for the purposes of promoting and guiding academic and institutional assessment efforts in a transparent and collaborative manner. Assessment efforts at ESF will become even stronger, ideally developing a culture of assessment throughout the College, with collaborative work to promote institutional and system-wide surveys, organize assessment efforts, and coordinate the dissemination of assessment data to campus and beyond, including for accreditation purposes. With the decennial self-study of ESF due to MSCHE in the 2021-2022 academic year, it will be vital to have ongoing coordination and support for increased documentation of assessment activities in order to facilitate the creation of a robust, clear, and comprehensive self-study document. This committee will serve as the core of the college accreditation team and collaboratively support accreditation efforts for MSCHE needs as well as to ensure consistent and successful reports to professional accreditation bodies.