

# Lawrence Technological University

## Accreditation Matters VOL. II - September 2008

### HLC Criterion 1 of 5 Mission and Integrity:

The organization operates with integrity to ensure the fulfillment of its mission through structures and processes that involve the board, administration, faculty, staff, and students.

1a. The organization's mission documents are clear and articulate publicly the organization's commitments.

1b. In its mission documents, the organization recognizes the diversity of its learners, other constituencies, and the greater society it serves.

1c. Understanding of and support for the mission pervade the organization.

1d. The organization's governance and administrative structures promote effective leadership and support collaborative processes that enable the organization to fulfill its mission.

1e. The organization upholds and protects its integrity.

### What Everyone Should Know:

- HLC Accreditation Criterion One
- Lawrence Tech's Mission, Vision, and Values
- Self-Study Timeline

### Purpose of this Newsletter

This newsletter informs the campus community about Lawrence Tech's upcoming institutional accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, scheduled for April 2011. The HLC will respond to the University with its recommendations during the summer of 2011. Our institutional goal is to receive a continuing ten-year accreditation from the HLC.

The institutional self-study, which helps us prepare for the accreditation visit, is an extensive process of self-study and reflection facilitated by a campus-wide steering committee. This newsletter – issued in January, May, and September of each year leading up to the HLC visit – provides information about institutional accreditation, the self-study process, and about how you can contribute to our collective efforts.

### Lawrence Tech's Mission, Vision, Values, and Cause

**Mission** – Lawrence Tech's mission is “to develop leaders through innovative and agile programs embracing theory and practice.” Our governance processes, allocation of resources, teaching and learning, acquisition and application of knowledge, and community engagement all directly support the accomplishment of our institutional mission.

**Vision** – While a mission describes what an institution is all about, a vision describes what the institution strives to become as it works to fulfill its mission. Lawrence Tech's vision is “to be a preeminent private university producing leaders with an entrepreneurial spirit and global view.”

**Values** – Values represent the core cultural priorities of the institution, which guide how students, faculty, and staff act in fulfillment of the institutional mission. Lawrence Tech's values include theory and practice, teamwork and trust, and character and integrity.

**Cause** – A cause is a statement of personal commitment that links Lawrence Tech's mission, vision, and values with our own behavior.

A cause represents our reason for being at Lawrence Tech. Our cause is “the intellectual development and transformation of our students into critical thinkers, leaders, and lifelong learners.”

### Self-Study Timeline

The Self-Study Steering Committee meets every two weeks during the academic year to lead the self-study effort. Here is a brief overview of the timeline used by the Committee:

#### 2008-2009

- Self-Study Data Design and Evidence Gathering plan
- Interviews with Vice Presidents, Deans, and Administrative Offices
- Campus Briefings

#### 2009-2010

- Self-Study Detailed Data Gathering
- Report Writing

#### 2010-2011

- Report Publication (December 2010)
- Higher Learning Commission Site Visit (April 2011)

### Self-Study Principles

As the Self-Study Steering Committee develops the self-study project plan, members will focus on these priorities:

1. To gather evidence of the alignment of Lawrence Tech's mission with institutional and educational outcomes. This evidence supports the "Assurance Section" of the HLC report.
2. To gather evidence that Lawrence Tech is organized, governed, and resourced to sustain its mission into the future. This evidence supports the "Advancement Section" of the HLC report.
3. To gather evidence that demonstrates linkages between long-term initiatives, student learning outcomes, and operations.
4. To actively engage the entire Lawrence Tech community in the accreditation process, and to learn from the self-study process.

### Self-Study Steering Committee:

Lawrence Tech has established a Self-Study Steering Committee to prepare our self-study report that will be sent to the members of the visiting team and to the HLC in December 2010. The self-study report is very comprehensive and gives the visiting team a real picture of who we are and how we are fulfilling our mission. The members of the Self-Study Steering Committee are:

Dr. Patty Castelli  
College of Management

Prof. Lew Frasch  
College of Engineering

Dr. Dale Gyure  
College of Architecture & Design

Dr. Steve Howell  
Associate Provost and  
Dean of Graduate Studies

Dr. Alan McCord  
College of Management and LTU Online  
Steering Committee Chair

Dr. Valentina Tobos  
College of Arts & Sciences