Middle States Accreditation and the Self-Study Process

2015-2018
What is the Middle States Accreditation Association?

The Commission is a voluntary, non-governmental membership association.

It examines each institution as a whole, rather than specific programs within institutions.

There is a 10-year interval of self-examination, external review, and commission approval (with a 5 year Periodic Review Report).
Why Accreditation?

Accreditation is the “good housekeeping seal of approval” to those we serve and the public at large that we are fulfilling our institutional mission and stated purposes.

It provides an opportunity to take an honest look at RCGC’s demonstrated strengths and challenges.

Middle States uses a peer-review process.
Middle States at RCGC


RCGC will address the seven MSCHE Standards of Excellence as part of a process of institutional reflection called the Self-Study.
Goals of the Self-Study Process

- Ensure that the College meets or exceeds expectations and compliance with MSCHE’s Seven Standards of Excellence.

- Draw insights from the self-study that will inform our strategic planning and related processes.

- Earn reaccreditation after a meaningful and participatory review process.
Self-Study Participants

The Self study involves everyone at RCGC, but there are two key groups that organize and shepherd the process:

- **Steering Committee** – organizes the self study process, produces a draft report, and disseminates the final report.

- **Working Groups** – faculty, administrators, staff, students, and others from the College community collect and examine existing data and prepare analytical reports for their assigned topics.
What have we accomplished so far?

Steering Committee established.

Seven Working Groups: one to address each standard.

Analytical research questions being reviewed by the Steering Committee for approval.

Approval of a comprehensive study design to address all seven standards.

SharePoint Site for working documents and resources for the groups.

Draft of the Self-Study design document, due early 2016, to Middle States for approval.
What Are the Standards?

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<th>Educational Effectiveness</th>
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<td>Standard III: Design and Delivery of the Student Learning Experience</td>
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Welcome to Rowan College at Gloucester County's Middle States 2018 Information Page. This page is meant to keep the RCGC community informed about the Middle States Self-Study Report.

RCGC is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. The College is scheduled to submit a Self-Study Report as part of the accreditation process. Over the next two years, seven Working Groups, along with RCGC's Middle States Steering Committee, will assess the programs and services at RCGC in relation to the College's mission and Middle States standards.

All of the discussions and reports over the next two years will be compiled into the Self-Study Report and reviewed by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. The Commission will issue its response along with its recommendations in 2018.
What is My Role in This Self Study Process?

- Become familiar with the standards.
- Consider joining a working group.
- Respond promptly to all requests for documents, interviews, or data.
- Follow the Self Study website and college publications for updates.
- Ask questions.
- Review draft documents when available.
Questions?

http://www.rcgc.edu/MiddleStates/Pages/default.aspx

Comments?