

**Tuesday Tidbits**  
**Tuesday, September 22, 2009**

***From what has been sent our direction, accreditation sounds like an important part of higher education. Are there other accrediting associations other than HLC?***

*"There are two basic types of educational accreditation, one identified as "institutional" and one referred to as "specialized" or "programmatic."*

*Institutional accreditation normally applies to an entire institution, indicating that each of an institution's parts is contributing to the achievement of the institution's objectives, although not necessarily all at the same level of quality. The various commissions of the regional accrediting associations, for example, perform institutional accreditation, as do many national accrediting agencies.*

*Specialized or programmatic accreditation normally applies to programs, departments, or schools that are parts of an institution".*

<http://www.ed.gov/admins/finaid/accred/index.html>

This information comes from a website set up by the United States Department of Education. There are accrediting bodies for many different categories. There are eighteen associations listed for regional and national accrediting agencies alone. If you are concerned about a specific institution and its accreditation status, check out this site. It is both readable and extensive.

***HLC is called a regional accrediting association. What other parts of the country are covered by associations like this?***

The six regional bodies are listed here. These associations work with institutions of higher education and accredit institutions and the distance education programs offered by these colleges and universities. They are:

**Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Higher Education** Institutions of higher education in Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands

**New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Institutions of Higher Education** Institutions of higher education in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont

**North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, The Higher Learning Commission** Institutions of higher education in Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming, including tribal institutions

**Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities** Institutions in Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington

**Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges**  
Institutions of higher education in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia

**Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities**  
Senior colleges and universities in California, Hawaii, the United States territories of Guam and American Samoa, the Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the Republic of the Marshall Islands

### ***What program accrediting associations affect PNC?***

We have degree programs accredited by the following associations. ABET will be having a site visit in the first week of October.

Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) that accredits our business program;

National League for Nursing Accreditation Commission, (usually referred to as NLN) that accredits our Nursing programs;

National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Educators (NCATE), that accredits our Elementary Education program;

Technology Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) that accredits some of our technology programs

### ***When is the visit?***

572 days from today – September 22, 2009. The HLC Team arrives on April 18, 2011.

Roses are red, violets are blue,  
HLC comes here in five-seven-two!

*Tuesday Tidbits* is a way to provide information about the upcoming accreditation visit by the Higher Learning Commission to the Purdue North Central Campus. Since the visiting team is interested in ALL aspects of the campus and its operation, this is being sent to all employees. If you have any questions about the accreditation process, or ideas for future Tidbits, please let me know.

Thanks!

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