

Tuesday Tidbits Tuesday, September 8, 2009

You make a big deal about the days until the visit. I just can't get excited about a report due so far in advance. Why do you?

The due date for the Self Study report is NOT April 18, 2011. No-no-no! The time line goes something like this ...

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| Fall 2009 | Gather all facts and start working on specific paragraphs for the many examples of evidence in the Core Components in the Criteria. Should be enough work to keep us busy. |
| Spring 2010 | Chapter drafts are written, read, reread and reread to the general boredom of all concerned and consternation of committee chairs. There will probably be a long drawn out discussion about margins, comma usage, semi colon inclusion and general academic one-up-man-ship. Please be gentle with those around you. |
| August 19, 2010 | Faculty workshop for the Fall 2010 semester. At this time the best draft is presented for the faculty and administration to read and critique. Actually, a fairly large number of employees – not just faculty – are involved with this reading and critiquing job. |
| November 18, 2010 | Final draft is to be completed by all committees and compiled into one nice, neat document ready for campus inspection. |
| January 18, 2011 | Final draft copies are meticulously read and every fact checked, every electronic link tried and every “t” crossed and “l” dotted. |
| February 18, 2011 | We submit our final draft, all polished and ready for reading, of our Self Study to all Team members (6 of ‘em) and the HLC office in Chicago. This is done three months before the team arrives. |
| April 18, 2011 | HLC Team arrives and we have our long awaited visit. |

Why so much time between November 18, 2010 and January 18, 2011 that has nothing listed to do? What happens then?

Lots of things! Thanksgiving, Friday after Thanksgiving, end of the Fall 2010 semester, Finals week, Grades are due, Christmas, New Years, start of the Spring 2011 semester etc. etc. Let's be realistic and not schedule something during a time when everyone concerned is busy enough.

What if I want to have input for the topics under consideration? When will I get my chance?

There are several ways to make your voice heard. First, you can contact a chapter committee chair (or me) directly. You might consider joining a committee. Second, all the committees have discussed having a "Town Hall" style meeting for their topic. This will probably work best after a rough draft has been prepared and circulated for general reading. The work is NOT secret and all members of the campus community are encouraged to be involved. True, the first several drafts of the material may not be sent out for campus consideration but as we get closer to the end, the more polished drafts will be available.

Is this timeline doable?

YES! The various chapter committees have been working already and an overall outline has been prepared. The work is right about where it should be but the next 586 days should be busy!

Thanks!

When is the visit?

586 days from today – September 8, 2009

We know the problems we need to fix,
HLC comes here in five-eight-six.

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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