

Office of Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Human Resources

WHAT: Minutes - University Assessment and Core Competency Meeting

WHEN: 3:00 – 4:00, November 6, 2025

WHERE – Via Teams

Invited Attendees:

Academic Review Committees:

- **Arts and Sciences:** Dr. Daniel Gordy
- **Education and Human Development:** Dr. Amy Craig
- **Nursing:** Dr. Krystyna Tabor
- **Allied Health:** Dr. Krystyna Tabor – Dr. Tammy Curtis
- **Business and Technology:** Dr. Simon Njeri
- **Coord. of Accreditation and Strat. Planning for SoB:** Dr. Maria Miranda

Administrative Review Committee:

- **Office of Institutional Effectiveness:** Frank Hall/Roni Biscoe
- **Public Information and Media Relations:** Leah Jackson
- **Economic Development and Advancement:** Gwen Fontenot
- **Electronic Learning and Global Engagement:** Stephanie Henson
- **Information Technology Services:** Ron Williams
- **Business Affairs:** Terra Raupp
- **University Affairs & Police:** Jon Caliste
- **Athletics:** Dustin Eubanks
- **Wellness and Recreation:** Patric Dubois
- **Registrar:** Barbara Prescott - Charlotte Grayson
- **Library:** Dr. Megan Lowe
- **Auxiliary Services:** Jennifer A. Kelly – Lindsey Vascocu
- **Academic Engagement and Student Success:** Steve Hicks
- **Student Experience:** Reatha Cox
- **Institutional Research:** Dawn Mitchell

Core Competency Coordinators:

- **English.** Dr. Jennifer Enoch
- **Mathematics.** Zeb Marcotte
- **Natural Sciences.** Dr. Christopher Lyles
- **Humanities.** Emily Zering
- **Social/Behavioral Sciences.** Dr. Dean Sinclair
- **Fine Art.** Dr. John Dunn

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Minutes:

- Key Dates. Key Dates:
 - 05 Nov 2025 - Strategic Planning Team Meeting
 - 06 Nov 2025 - University Assessment Committee Meeting
 - **06-09 Dec 2025 - SACSCOC Annual Conference, Music City Center; Nashville, TN**
 - 11 Feb 2026 - Strategic Planning Team Meeting **Note. Provide Mid-Year Brief Templates**
 - 12 Feb 2026 - University Assessment Committee Meeting
 - **27 Feb 2026 - All Mid-Year Input – Reports are due.**
 - **04 Mar 2026 - Student Achievement Input Due**
 - 10 Mar 2026 - Update Student Achievement Website
 - **11 Mar 2026 - SFA - Program-Unit Mid-Year Update**
 - 09 Apr 2026 - Strategic Planning Team Meeting
 - 10 Apr 2026 - University Assessment Committee Meeting
 - **19 Jun 2026 - AC 2025-2026**
 - **Program/Unit Assessments due.**
 - **Core Competencies Due**
 - **Strategic Plan - Focus Area Input Due**
- ❖ AC 2024-2025 – Making a Difference (published). Available on the IE website at <https://www.nsula.edu/institutional-effectiveness/> under "Foundational Planning Documents."
- ❖ **New AC 2025-2026 – Leading the Way** is the new strategic plan assessment cycle document. The input is due on June 19, 2026. The DIE also asked for ideas about the proposed draft cover. If anyone has any other ideas, please submit them.
- ❖ **New AC 2025-2026 Academic Program, Core Competency, and Unit Assessment Tracker.**
 - The AC 2025-2026 tracker has 168 academic programs, administrative units, and core competencies. This is three more than AC 2024-2025.
 - The DIE requested that Deans and Coordinators review the tracker and verify the accuracy of the data.

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- A mid-year report update from each coordinator is due on 27 Feb 2026. Although not mandatory, constructing a mid-year report saves time in June, when the final assessment report is due – June 19, 2026.
- The DIE emphasized the essential 'Assessment Process Musts' (Slide 7). These are the requirements that must be included in each assessment report, regardless of whether it pertains to a program, unit, or core competency.
- The 'Assessment Measure by the Numbers' guide was recommended to ensure format consistency (Slide 8).
- General Education Competencies. The DIE requested a review and update as required of the listing of core courses (Slide 11), the associated evaluation plan (Slides 12-13), and the Dual Enrollment Plan.
- The DIE asked that the core coordinators make a concerted effort to partner with their counterparts at Pineville High School. Alignment is essential since SACSCOC will visit Pineville High and expects curricular consistency and assessment participation.
- All academic programs, administrative units, and core competency reports are due June 19, 2026. The DIE asked that everyone make an effort to meet this date as it allows a seamless transition University Assessment Coordinator duties to transition.

❖ Web Content Accessibility Guide (WCAG) 2.1. The DIE also requested support in the effort to meet the accessibility standard as outlined in the April 2024 Department of Justice ruling and the UL System policy, requiring all public content to meet WCAG 2.1 Level AA by April 24, 2026.

❖ President's Priorities AC 2025-2026. The DIE highlighted the President's 2025–2026 priorities.

❖ Student Achievement Request – website update. The DIE sent an email with instructions to each of the below points of contact on October 8, 2025. The suspense is on March 4, 2026.

- Nursing
- Allied Health
- Vet Tech
- Education

❖ SACSCOC Review Committee AC 2025-2026 Plan Update. The DIE discussed the shift in focus from strategic planning to preparing for reaffirmation next semester. Several evidence requests will support compliance preparation.

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- ❖ **DUE 13 Mar 2026: As FYI.** The DIE requested subject matter experts for the following standards to submit drafts with supporting exhibits no later than March 13, 2026. The expectation is a complete draft with exhibits 10.5 - Van; 12.1 & 12.4 – Reatha; 12.6 & 13.6 - Lauren; 13.1, 13.2 & 13.3 - Rodney; 13.7 - Jenn
- ❖ Strategic Planning Alignment: NSU Strategic Plan (2023-2028) and ULS Strategic Plan (2025-2030). Northwestern State University's Strategic Plan 2023-2028 demonstrates strong alignment with the University of Louisiana System's 2025-2030 Strategic Plan. Approximately 90% of NSU's objectives and metrics operationalize the System's four strategic priorities. The remaining areas - leisure learning, athletics recognition, and culture - complement the System's priorities by enhancing student experience and institutional distinction. Together, the plans promote a shared mission of responsive, student-centered, and economically relevant education for Louisiana. Most non-aligned metrics enhance Northwestern's identity as a student-centered and community-engaged institution. While not mirrored at the System level, these measures provide valuable insight into campus engagement, faculty recognition, and sustainability efforts.
- ❖ **IE Model.** Dated 28 July 2025
- ❖ Adjourned at 3:40.

The next UAC-CCC meeting will be held via Teams on February 12, 2026.