

Communication Plan for the Self-Study

Institutional accreditation is a priority for the entire Pillar College community and efforts to inform the faculty, students, and staff about the Self-Study progress and its associated activities is a critical part of the process. The Communications Team is committed to informing all members of the community of the accreditation review process to understand the components of that review and the Standards with which we must demonstrate compliance. The goals of the communication plan are to both share information and solicit feedback. We seek to ensure cooperation from the broader community as we compile documents, data, policies, procedures and other information to inform our analyses. In addition, we want members of the community to understand the alignment between the Self-Study review and our ongoing strategic plan, and encourage them to think about the review process as an opportunity for self-improvement and to identify opportunities and challenges associated with our institutional goals and priorities.

While aspects of the communication plan will develop further over time, the plan currently includes the following activities:

April 2022 College community is informed about the 2024 Middle States Commission on Higher Education spring visit and briefed on the seven Standards and the requirement to conduct a comprehensive review (groups briefed included the Board of Trustees, the President’s Cabinet, the Academic Council, Faculty and Staff).

September 2022 General communication to the College community informing them of the 2022 MSCHE accreditation visit and describing the process of review. Communication channels include the college website, email, staff meetings and student chapels.

Fall 2022 – Spring 2023 Board of Trustees, college leadership, staff and faculty updated quarterly on the Self-Study review process by Steering Committee Co-Chairs.

Fall 2022, Quarter 1 Steering Committee and working group chairs of each standard brief the staff and faculty at a general staff meeting about the accreditation process in general and progress of each standard.

Fall 2022, Quarter 1 Student members of the Steering Committee and Student Engagement administrators will advise about outreach to undergraduate and graduate

students, as well as student leadership groups; in-person and electronic communications will be considered, including the use of social media

**Fall 2022,
Quarter 2**

Steering Committee updates Pillar College digital publications, electronic newsletters, College website and other communication outlets where written updates about the Self-Study process and reports could appear

**Fall 2022,
Quarter 2**

The Steering Committee develops a distribution and feedback plan for seeking input from the college leadership and broader community on Working Group reports and Self-Study draft reports

**November
2022**

Pillar College MSCHE Self-Study website created; will be accessible to all community members

**February –
June 2023**

Formal feedback on the Self-Study draft solicited from all members of the University community; avenues for both electronically-submitted comments and in-person town halls or other meetings will be provided

**October
2023**

Self-Study draft shared with College leadership and Board of Trustees and feedback solicited

**Fall 2023,
Quarter 1**

Subsequent drafts of the Self-Study shared with Pillar community members, posted on College Self-Study website

**Spring 2024,
Quarter 1**

Community will be informed about the Evaluation Team visit and given information about their role in the process

**Summer–
Fall 2024**

Outcomes of the Evaluation Team visit and the Middle States Commission meeting will be communicated to the College community