## Wabash College Accreditation Committee Newsletter March 2012

## **Reviews and Recommendations Sought for Institutional Self-Study Draft**

The Accreditation Steering Committee is proceeding as planned with a written draft of the Institutional Self-Study required by The Higher Learning Commission for accreditation renewal. A primary objective of the Self-Study is to provide the Commission with an "explicit evaluation of how [Wabash] fulfills each of the five <u>Criteria for Accreditation</u> through meeting the Core Components." In meeting this objective the Steering Committee is challenged to produce **evidence** that effectively demonstrates how Wabash has met, and will continue to meet, this standard. Throughout the writing process the Self-Study authors have asked themselves, "is this document explicit enough and does it provide the *best* evidence to merit reaccreditation?" The Committee now asks you to consider the same question.

## **Opportunities for you to participate**

Over the course of the next five weeks, sections of the Self-Study document will be posted on an Accreditation Moodle site. Each section will address the core components and supporting evidence pertaining to one of the five <u>Criteria for Accreditation</u>. Ten days after notification of a section posting, the Committee will host a luncheon to discuss the *conveyance of evidence* used to demonstrate how Wabash meets the core components for that criterion. Faculty and staff interested in participating in such a discussion will be asked to RSVP to <u>Chris Duff</u> at least two days prior to the luncheon. In addition, the Committee will invite individual faculty, staff and students identified as having special interest in or knowledge of College operations as related to particular criteria core components.

Sections of the Self-Study draft are scheduled to be released for review in the following order:

	Release date	Luncheon Discussion	
Criterion 5	Tuesday, March 13	Friday, March 23	Email Comments
Criterion 4	Tuesday, March 20	Friday, March 30	Email Comments
Criterion 3	Tuesday, March 27	Friday, April 6	Email Comments
Criterion 2	Tuesday, April 3	Friday, April 13	Email Comments
Criterion 1	Tuesday, April 10	Friday, April 20	Email Comments

These luncheon meetings will, in effect, serve as "focus groups" intended to offer the authors additional or alternative evidence in support of the evaluation presented by the Self-Study. But if you are not able to join us at one of these "working lunches", please feel free to submit your recommendations via email to the Self -Study author of the section being reviewed.

We look forward to working with you to finalize an Institutional Self-Study document that is both representative of the good work currently being done at Wabash and indicative of the level of achievement for which we will continue to strive.

If you have questions, suggestions or concerns we invite you to contact a member of the Accreditation Committee: <u>Bobby Horton</u>, John Lamborn, Todd McDorman, Julie Olsen and Ann Taylor.