

GCU Self-Study Preparations

Summer Updates

Over Summer 2017, the members of the GCU MSCHE Self-Study Steering Committee completed the elements of the Documentation Roadmap, showing compliance with the requirements of each Standard for Accreditation. Each Standard's subcommittee then did a gap analysis of the documentation and identified Georgian Court University's strengths and areas for further development. This analysis was reviewed by the members at the August 24 meeting. It was determined that GCU was in compliance with each of the seven Standards. The overall gap analysis was presented to the President's Cabinet on August 29 by the GCU Steering Committee co-chairs Timothy Briles, Ed.D. and Janet Thiel, OSF, Ph.D.

Purpose of a Self-Study

The purpose of the self-study is to achieve re-affirmation of accreditation by showing compliance with the MSCHE Requirements of Affiliation (15) and Standards of Accreditation (7). This is accomplished through the narrative of the institution's self-study, a Documentation Roadmap showing compliance with the seven Standards and their criteria, and documentation of compliance with federal regulations (Title III and Distance Learning). Georgian Court University has been a member of MSCHE since 1922. Additional information on its accreditation status can be found at: http://www.msche.org/institutions_view.asp?idinstitution=244

"The Commission is a voluntary, non-governmental, membership association that defines, maintains, and promotes educational excellence across institutions with diverse missions, student populations, and resources."

—MSCHE
<http://msche.org/>

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GCU Mission Evaluation

As a member of the Conference for Mercy Higher Education (CMHE), GCU will be conducting a peer review process using the Catholic, Mercy Mission Accountability Process parallel to the MSCHE Self-Study process. Its findings and recommendations will inform Standard I: Mission and Goals.

The Mercy Mission Accountability Process began in Fall 2017, and is under the direction of Evelyn Quinn, M.S.W., M.Ed., vice president for mission integration.



Updates to the GCU MSCHE Self-Study Steering Committee

Committee Members

Marny Requa, J.D. joined the Steering Committee as co-chair of the Standard V subcommittee. She replaces Pari Murthy, Ph.D., who will remain as a member of the subcommittee.

In addition, President Marbach invited Anthony Brano, Ph.D., Christopher Perrin, Ph.D., and Stephanie Rahill, Ph.D. to serve as Self-Study writers.

Also, there were changes to the various Standards subcommittees. If any member wants to be involved in the continuing work of the GCU MSCHE Self-Study, they are asked to contact Dr. Timothy Briles or Sister Janet Thiel.

Standard I: Mission & Goals	Evelyn Quinn, M.S.W., M.Ed., '74 Barbara Williams, RSM, '63
Standard II: Ethics & Integrity	Jo Ann F. Cummings, Ph.D. Gail H. Towns
Standard III: Design & Delivery of the Student Learning Experience	William J. Behre, Ph.D. Nancy Sardone, Ph.D.
Standard IV: Support of the Student Experience	Colleen Diveny Susan E. O. Field, Ph.D.
Standard V: Educational Effectiveness Assessment	Michael F. Gross, Ph.D. Marny Requa, J.D.
Standard VI: Planning, Resources & Institutional Improvement	Cathleen M. McQuillen, D.P.S. John Sommer, CPA
Standard VII: Governance, Leadership & Administration Writers	Russell McDonald, Ph.D. Janice Warner, Ph.D. Anthony Brano, Ph.D. Christopher Perrin, Ph.D. Stephanie Rahill, Ph.D.

Survey Says...

Evidence of meeting the requirements of the MSCHE Standards is found in survey feedback and results. During the Spring 2017 term, GCU conducted the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE). During the Fall 2017 New Student Orientation, entering students took the Ruffalo Noel Levitz surveys of the College Student Inventory (CSI) for freshman students and transfer students took the Second Year Student Assessment (SYSA).

During the AY 2017-2018, plans are in process to administer the Ruffalo Noel Levitz Student Satisfaction Inventory (SSI) to all students during the Spring 2018 semester. In addition, freshmen students will again be surveyed in the beginning of the Spring 2018 term using the Mid-Year Student Assessment (MYSA), a follow-up to the CSI.



Student Surveys Give Students Voice

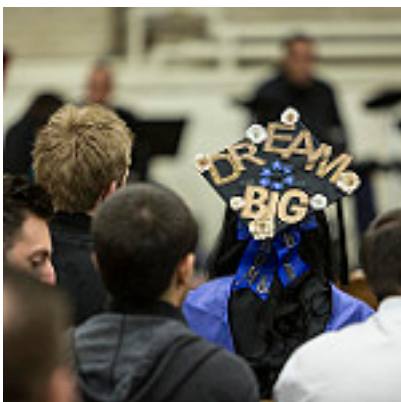
The overall results for the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) 2017 survey were as follows:

Most gains as reported by seniors: 83% of seniors responded “very much” or “quite a bit” of growth in critical and analytical thinking; 75% of seniors responded “very much” or “quite a bit” of growth in working with others as well as in developing or clarifying a personal code of values and ethics.

First Year Students: 87% reported involvement with service learning. They rated their experience above their peers (Catholic Colleges and Universities) in the areas of talking about career plans with faculty, evaluating another’s point of view, and gaining assistance in managing non-academic responsibilities.

All of the above align with GCU's Mercy mission and core values, as well as the High-Impact Practices (HIP) as defined by NSSE.

The results of the College Student Inventory (CSI) and the Second-Year Student Assessment (SYSA) were shared with various university constituents responsible for planning and supporting the student learning experience. The area with the highest interest for student support was social engagement!



MSCHE Self-Study and Strategic Compass Synergy

Completing the self-study and creating the Strategic Compass at the same time signals a great challenge—and opportunity—for GCU. Both efforts must reflect synergy and mission alignment, and committees are guided by the following alignment, even as work continues and additional input is gathered across campus. These Compass Points and the university’s Self-Study Self-Recommendations and Action Plan will play a key role in its continuous improvement. Below is the update on both processes and alignment as of Fall 2017.

GCU Compass Points: Emphasis on the Student Experience	GCU Self-Study Self- Recommendations	MSCHE Standard Alignment: Note: All include Standards I. & II.
C1. Mission Fulfillment through Academic Excellence		Standard I. Mission & Goals Standard II. Ethics & Integrity Standard III. Design & Delivery of the Student Learning Experience Standard V. Educational Effectiveness Assessment
C2. Mission Fulfillment through Exceptional Student Experience		Standards I & II Standard IV. Support of the Student Experience Standard V.
C3. Mission Fulfillment through Revenue Generation and Diversification	Institutional Planning for Continued Viability	Standards I & II Standard VI. Planning, Resources & Institutional Improvement
C4. Mission Fulfillment through Operational Efficiency and Resource Utilization	Effective Communication Strategies (Standard II) University Effectiveness and Planning	Standards I & II Standard VI. Standard VII. Governance, Leadership, and Administration

Contact Us

Our shared efforts toward reaffirmation of accreditation is led by the GCU Office of Assessment.

Learn more about assessment at GCU and explore additional resources at:

georgian.edu/assessment

Janet Thiel, OSF, Ph.D., Director of Assessment

jthiel@georgian.edu • 732.987.2234