

Criterion Five: Engagement and Service

Present: Tom Delahunt, Brooke Benschoter, Don Adams, Jean Berger, Susan Breakenridge, Jacqui DiGiacinto, Dolph Pulliam, Christine Schneider, Jolene Schmidt, Patty Verlengia, and Dean Wright

North Central Accreditation representative, Mary Breslin, visited campus and met with the administration about the accreditation process. She said Drake is working through the process correctly but offered little else as insight. The accreditation is a new process for NCA as well as for universities. Sue Wright received two reports completed by other schools that can be reviewed as examples on Blackboard. It is now time for Drake to get ready to write.

Three or four examples of evidence are required for each component. Before the meeting Tom identified and assigned documents of evidence from earlier committee discussion as support for the core components of Criterion Five. He distributed this document for discussion.

Comments and suggestions:

- Jacqui: Middleton Children's Rights is a program for Urban Education directed through the Drake Legal Clinic. Drake education students learn to teach in urban areas. Funding from the Middleton's given to SOE and distributed to the legal clinic for programming. This program is not listed but could be detail for the legal clinic.
- Dolph: Is it possible to add names of individuals who work in the community in ways that give back to the community? Brooke said someone else might be doing an inventory of human capital – she will ask Sue Wright. Don said we have learned that we need to do a better job of knowing what individuals are doing in the community. A difficulty will be in showing that activity and giving examples.
- Jean: We must pick evidence that is most far reaching – biggest diversity of group / project.
- Brooke: Some things are expected from an institute of higher learning. Should we list the obvious?
- Dolph: Drake will be receiving an award for community involvement with low-income families: Christmas Wish Program, Food Basket Program, community activity passes for campus events.
- Tom: We have programming that is part of NAACP and the evidence is the awards we are receiving for the effort. We will list these programs.
- Don: The Maddie Levitt awards recognize faculty and staff for going above and beyond: mentoring, teaching.
- Jolene: Suggest grouping evidence broadly by theme and then detailing the evidence in support.
- Christine: The fine arts categories can be collapsed together. The facility space provided for fine arts events is important to the community – it must be noted somewhere.
- Dean: Focus groups – we should do it. What we have talked about is what we believe others believe and are saying, not what they are saying. We also know that

Drake has vocal critics. There should be value in saying we are going to have focus group input. We want to do it right and the focus groups can be listed as needed in our area.

- Don: The accreditation team can be expected to meet with community representatives
- Tom: NAC groups are not listed here. Those groups are all Drake alums. BOT is not listed and they are the 2nd governing group of the university.
- Dean: Drake is sometimes presented as having a fence around it and this is a societal / class issue. That concept should be addressed.
- Jacqui: Des Moines has not embraced Drake as its hometown school. It was not a one way building of the wall. This document is not, however, the place to address that issue.
- Brooke: Societal issues are strong – but with the amount of publicity produced the fence may be an urban myth.

Tom will use the discussion to revise the component and evidence support for discussion at the next meeting of the committee.