

North Park University
“Leading Lives of Significance and Service”
Higher Learning Commission (HLC)-Program to Evaluate and Advance Quality (PEAQ)
Self-Study Newsletter
October 2009

From now until our visit in November 2010 you will be receiving a monthly newsletter. The purpose of the newsletter is to keep you informed of progress, important dates, and opportunities for participation in the self-study process. If you have any questions please contact Elizabeth Ritt at eritt@northpark.edu

- *“Leading Lives of Significance and Service”* is the theme of our self-study. This theme provides us with a basis for the ongoing examination of how we at North Park are living out our mission. Our self-study goals include:
 - demonstrating the university’s ability to meet the criteria for accreditation set forth by the Higher Learning Commission.
 - actively engaging all members of the university, its constituents, and the broader community in the self-study process.
 - reflecting on the university’s accomplishments and evaluating our response to challenges over the last decade.
 - using the self-study process to engage all campus constituencies in dialogue regarding the university’s future.
 - using the findings to inform decision-making related to strategic planning and quality improvement.
 - building sustainable processes and systems that offer opportunities to evaluate the long-term effectiveness of the university as we prepare for the future.

Updates:

- The three subcommittees are actively writing sections of the self-study and are working on a rough draft that will be shared early next year.
- Samples of student work will continue to be accepted by Elizabeth Ritt via electronic or inter-office mail. To date, we have received over 30 pieces of student work. Thank you for the excellent response and feel free to continue to send student work samples to me until February 1, 2010.
- We will be collecting information related to publications, professional presentations, grants, awards, honors, and degrees completed. The information will be collated in an attempt to produce an electronic and paper-based compendium of faculty and staff accomplishments (September 2007-September 2009). Please submit this information using the electronic form that is attached. A copy of the form can also be located in your Blackboard Accreditation Website under Updates. Please submit the form to Elizabeth Ritt at eritt@northpark.edu by **December 1, 2009**. Don’t hesitate to contact me with any questions.
- Please continue to upload documents to your departmental wiki. We are seeing excellent progress across all areas. If you have any questions regarding the wiki please contact Robert Stanley at rstanley@northpark.edu for assistance.
- Stay tuned for the November newsletter which will signal our one year countdown until the on-site visit.