

**North Park University**  
***“Leading Lives of Significance and Service”***  
Higher Learning Commission (HLC)-Program to Evaluate and Advance Quality (PEAQ)  
**Self-Study Newsletter: One-Year Countdown**  
**November 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](mailto: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 posted to the Blackboard accreditation site in the early part of the Spring semester.
- Samples of student work will continue to be accepted by Elizabeth Ritt via electronic or inter-office mail until **February 1, 2010**. To date, we have received over 40 pieces of student work. **I am still in need of samples that exhibit aesthetic competencies and graduate level work.**
- Thank you for submitting the accomplishments document via email. To date, I have over 30 submissions and they are shaping up to be an excellent reflection of faculty and staff accomplishments. 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). A copy of the form can also be located in your Blackboard Accreditation Website under Updates. Please submit the form in a word document to Elizabeth Ritt at [eritt@northpark.edu](mailto:eritt@northpark.edu) by **December 1, 2009**.
- Please continue to upload documents to your departmental wiki. We are making excellent progress across all areas. This information on the wiki is proving to be very helpful to the members of the subcommittees. If you have any questions regarding the wiki please contact Robert Stanley at [rstanley@northpark.edu](mailto:rstanley@northpark.edu) for assistance.
- The issue of confidentiality has been raised regarding documents posted to the wiki. For resumes include your name, NPU phone number, and box number. Do not feel that you need to include any personal information such as home phone number or address. Regarding student information, it is recommended that you **do not** include student names or any other confidential information. Contact [eritt@northpark.edu](mailto:eritt@northpark.edu) with any specific questions.