



## SACSCOC

# Accreditation Update

This is the first of several reports that will inform the Norfolk State University (NSU) community about the activities related to the preparation of the Second Monitoring Report and the Special Committee visit for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).

June 25, 2015 / No. 1

A team has been designated to oversee the completion of the report and prepare for the visit by SACSCOC. The team members are:

- **Dr. Sandra DeLoatch**, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and SACSCOC Liaison
- **Mr. Gerald Hunter**, Vice President of Finance and Administration
- **Dr. Paula Gentius**, Assistant to the President
- **Ms. Clementine Cone**, Executive Assistant to the President for University Compliance
- **Dr. Mildred Fuller**, Vice Provost
- **Dr. James Walke**, Assistant Vice President for Institutional Research, Assessment, and Planning
- **Dr. Belinda Anderson**, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts
- **Dr. Dorothy Jones**, Dean of the School of Extended Learning

At the Spring 2015 Opening Conference, President Eddie Moore assigned responsibility for responding to sections of the Second Monitoring Report to Dr. Paula Gentius – Governance sections; Mr. Gerald Hunter – Financial Reporting sections; Dr. Sandra DeLoatch – Faculty and Academics sections. President Moore also designated Ms. Clementine Cone as his reviewer to ensure adequacy of documentation. Dr. DeLoatch was appointed as the SACSCOC Accreditation Liaison in January. Several faculty and staff members have volunteered to assist and are being called upon to provide input and to review the various sections of the report.

### Brief Background

On January 26, 2015, Norfolk State University received written notice from Dr. Belle Wheelan, President of Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, outlining the details of Norfolk State University's 12-month probation sanction imposed by the SACSCOC Board of Trustees during its December 2014 meeting. The action was taken based upon the review of NSU's First Monitoring Report and financial statements following the 2013 Special Committee Report, and a Referral Report submitted following the 2014 Fifth-Year Interim Report.

The SACSCOC Board of Trustees found the University non-compliant with the following standards of the SACSCOC Principles of Accreditation (2012):

- Core Requirement 2.2 (Governing Board)
- Core Requirement 2.8 (Faculty)
- Core Requirement 2.11.1 (Financial Resources and Stability)
- Comprehensive Standard 3.2.5 (Board Dismissal)
- Comprehensive Standard 3.2.6 (Board/Administrative Distinction)
- Comprehensive standard (3.3.1.1) Institutional effectiveness: educational programs)
- Comprehensive Standard 3.7.5 (Faculty Role in Governance)
- Comprehensive Standard 3.10.1 (Financial Stability)
- Comprehensive Standard 3.10.2 (Financial Aid Audits)
- Comprehensive Standard 3.10.3 (Control of Finances)

- Comprehensive Standard 3.10.4 (Control of Sponsored Research/External Funds)
- Comprehensive Standard 3.11.1 (Control of Physical Resources)
- Comprehensive Standard 3.13.1 (Policy Compliance)
- Federal Requirement 4.7 (Title IV Program Responsibilities)

The notice from Dr. Wheelan details the specific recommendations made by SACSCOC and is available [here](#). The institution's response, the Second Monitoring Report, is due September 8, 2015. The notice also informed the University that a Special Committee has been authorized to visit NSU to review evidence of compliance with the cited standards.

### Current Progress

A timetable for completion of the Second Monitoring Report has been developed and the aforementioned team is working diligently to execute the required tasks. Additionally, the NSU Board of Visitors has taken action to address concerns related to the governance sections and its Board Bylaws, and has also established an Ad-Hoc Committee to monitor the university's progress. Assessment data have been submitted for all academic programs and draft sections have been prepared for every cited standard or requirement. External consultants have been engaged to review the draft responses and provide feedback.

The SACSCOC Special Committee visit is scheduled for **October 13 -15, 2015**.