

To: Members of the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees  
Steve Nelson, Chairperson                      Bill Griffin  
Bill Epperly    Mike Houston  
Carolyn Ehlert Fuller                              D'Angelo Taylor

From: Joe Rives, Vice President, Quad Cities, Planning and Technology

Date: March 10, 2010

Re: March 2010 Strategic Plan Update

Your March 2010 Western Illinois University Board of Trustees meeting materials contain a Web link to draft of the University's *Self-Study* for re-accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission-North Central Association of Colleges and Schools ([www.wiu.edu/accreditation](http://www.wiu.edu/accreditation)). In order to promote cost efficiencies and sustainability, I will print and deliver hard copy of the draft to individual Board members upon request; it is 280 pages in length.

Draft of the *Self-Study* reflects a document written by over 200 members of the Western Illinois University community. Seven accreditation updates have been used to seek additional campus feedback and revisions during academic year 2009-2010. At the request of the Civil Service Employees Council and the Council of Administrative Personnel two process discussions have been held with both of these groups; and at the request of the Faculty Senate and the Quad Cities Faculty Council, monthly materials have been submitted to these groups for review and edit.

Additionally, on February 26th and March 5th in Macomb and March 3rd in the Quad Cities, the Steering Team held 14 focus groups for edits and feedback on the *Self-Study*. A total of 105 faculty and staff from the Macomb and Quad Cities Campuses participated in these focus groups. The thematic comments discussed at the focus groups are available at [www.wiu.edu/accreditation/steering-team.php](http://www.wiu.edu/accreditation/steering-team.php) under Focus Group Summaries. All changes have been incorporated into the *Self-Study*.

After incorporating feedback received from you and the campus community during March, the Steering Team Chairs will seek endorsement of the *Self-Study* from our campus governance groups, following precedent established in other university planning activities. Upon completion, the document will be presented in June for your approval to submit to the Commission. A folder will be kept on institutional changes made during the period between Board approval and the on-site visit. This will give the Commission the most current information on Western Illinois University as they make their re-accreditation decision.

Thank you for your continuing engagement in the self-study process. Please contact me if you would like a printed copy of the *Self-Study*, and/or if you have feedback for the continued successful implementation of *Higher Values in Higher Education*. I look forward to seeing you at Groundbreaking for Building One at the Quad Cities Riverfront Campus. The program will start at 10AM on March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

cc: President Goldfarb                      COAP President Meixner                      Associate Provost Dallinger  
Provost Thomas                              Faculty Council Chair Rowson                      Associate Provost Hawkinson  
Vice President Johnson                      Faculty Senate Chair Devolder                      Assistant Vice President Williams  
Vice President Thompson                      Macomb SGA Chair Heard                      Planning, Budget, and IR Staff  
CSEC President Lavin                              Quad Cities SGA Chair Garrison                      President's Office Support Staff