WHEREAS Western Illinois University’s Self-Study for institutional re-accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission-North Central Association of Colleges and Schools was a collaborative four-year process following precedent used in other University planning activities; and,

WHEREAS Academic Year 2007-2008 focused on updating Higher Values in Higher Education that guided the Self-Study; and academic years 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 involved writing by 10 teams that represented over 200 members of the campus community; and,

WHEREAS The Self-Study Steering Team solicited and made edits to the document based on seven accreditation updates to our campus communities and 15 focus groups with 115 members of the campus community; and,

WHEREAS The Self-Study Steering Team, at the request of the campus governance groups, provided monthly accreditation updates to the Faculty Senate and Quad Cities Faculty Council; and three process updates each to the Civil Service Employees Council, Council of Administrative Personnel, and Student Government Associations—Macomb and Quad Cities; and,

WHEREAS The Western Illinois University Board of Trustees reviewed the Self-Study at its summer 2008 and 2009 retreats, Board meetings, and Accreditation Updates; and,

WHEREAS The Self-Study reflects a meaningful analysis of strengths, challenges, and opportunities in each of the five evaluation criteria, federal compliance, and the three special emphases; and plans outlined in the Self-Study position the University to successfully address Higher Values in Higher Education goals and priorities; and,

WHEREAS All campus governance groups on both Western campuses endorsed the Self-Study; and,

WHEREAS the Vice President for Quad Cities, Planning and Technology and the Associate Provost for Undergraduate and Graduate Studies will be responsible for the continued preparation of and follow up from the on-site review team visit on February 14-16, 2011:

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Board of Trustees approves submission of the University’s Self-Study to the Commission; and be it further resolved that the Board highly commends all involved in the self-study process for producing a high-quality document showing how we collectively advance academic excellence, educational opportunity, personal growth, and social responsibility.