

Overview of Middle States Process for 2006-2007

The Middle States Self-Study is an opportunity for St. Lawrence to carefully and deliberately consider its educational programs and services in order to determine the degree to which they address and accomplish not only the institution's mission but the Middle States commission's accreditation standards.

*"The primary purpose of the self-study report is to advance institutional self-understanding and self-improvement. The self-study report, therefore, is most useful when it is analytical and forward-looking rather than descriptive or defensive, when it is used to both identify problems and to develop solutions to them, and when it identifies opportunities for growth and development."*¹

Timeline for Spring 2006-Fall 2007

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| • Chair discusses self-study at faculty meeting | March 2006 |
| • Select steering committee members | March 2006 |
| • Steering Committee develops general charges for each accreditation standard ² | March- April 2006 |
| • Steering Committee determines memberships of working groups | March-April 2006 |
| • Steering Committee and working groups consult on research questions for each standard | March-April 2006 |
| • Chair and executive group write draft of self-study design and submit to Steering Committee for review | May 2006 |
| • Draft self-study design submitted to Luis Pedraja, Middle States Commission's SLU's liaison | June 2006 |
| • Set up resource room and build self-study library | Summer 2006 |
| • Self-study design put on web page and campus conversations held to discuss it | Early Fall 2006 |
| • Visit to SLU by Luis Pedraja. Meetings with Steering Committee, President, Board Members, And members of campus community | September 2006 |
| • Chair and executive committee revise Self-Study design and submit to Steering Committee | September 2006 |
| • Revised Self-Study design submitted to Luis Pedraja | October 2006 |
| • Working groups given charges | October 2006 |

Other Important Dates

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| • Submit final Self-Study report to MSCHE | September 2007 |
| • Middle States Team Visit | Early spring 2008 |

¹ *Self-Study: Creating a Useful Process and Report* (Draft 10-3-05). Middle States Commission on Higher Education, pg. 4.

² The Assessment Committee is the working group for Standard 1: *Mission, Goals, and Objectives*, Standard 7: *Institutional Assessment* and Standard 14: *Assessment of Student Learning*.