

Breakout Session

Core Themes

- Key things your institution is about?
- Discrete parts of mission?
- Underlying values?
- Should commission establish a set of these?
- Build with eye to assessment?
- Could we have a case study?
 - This looks more manageable.
 - Looks more integrated.
 - How does this new structure affect institution wide approach to current self study?

Committees

- Help to resolve interpretation and process questions – back to commission – for assistance before next report.
- Continuity of any committee members?
- Make part of NWCCU report to members

Standards

- How do we make connections in complex organizations for the varied work underway and the notion of “core themes”?
- Top down/Bottom up? Process for development of core themes?
- Forces synthesized thinking as opposed to a collection of various parts ...
- One determination of a theme is – can I measure it? – versus value.
- Language is not precise.
- Should we adopt a different term than “theme”?
- What are our major “communities of interest”?

Process

- Issues with wanting to tweak prior areas of work/report.
- Supports ongoing assessment process and way to integrate this with ongoing work.
- 2011 (work for those up 1st) may not be of the nature originally intended ... more of a scramble.
- Evaluation training!
- More research – oriented.
- Program review – internal process with external evaluator might substitute for the current NWCCU look at each area.
- How much will E.R.’s change?
- How will policies be treated?
- Lots of questions about how to approach 2011 group.
- What constitutes non-compliance?
- There are different levels of oversight now ...
- More synthesized product and different approach to writing.
- We get to set our own benchmarks ... what happens when and if we fail to meet?
- We want to be challenged to improve but not penalized if fail to meet.
- We do not want the commission to set benchmarks! Don’t “norm” us.
- Look carefully at continuity in committees and predictability in standards.
- Report from commission to highlight and illustrate results and areas to emphasize in process.

- Positive patterns and areas of concern.
 - Report as previously submitted should be allowed to stand.
 - How do we track changes but show evolution?
 - Public disclosure aspects – will there be general policy guidance on this?
-