

Breakout Session

Seminar II-9 or 10

Discussion of the process:

- How will general templates work? If they're general, they'll work. If they're specific, they could be challenging.
- Be careful about the mission statement because you'll have to live with it.
- University of Alaska Anchorage was in a good situation and modeling seemed to work. They had a good mission and a strategic plan.
- It seems to be continuous quality improvement. The question – who do you work with?
- Core themes were new to UAA. They did the “sticky thing” and got people to tell what they thought were core themes. They all had to have measurable indicators. Reported out as much as possible. Cabinet then decided. They would do something similar if they had more time, but more thoroughly.
 - UAA did an early briefing of the new standard.
 - How do you keep disparate elements of a campus? Individual groups need to commit to this process.
 - Core themes:
 - Instruction
 - Research
 - Student outcomes
 - Public square
 - Environment
 - Some indicators already exist, but new ones will need to come into being.
 - Student outcomes are interesting, and were everything at one time. This has clearly changed and the emphasis has shifted.
 - We may be adding a similar methodology to other areas of the university.
 - It is valuable to have conversations between campuses as we go forward together.
 - Everyone needs to be covered by a core theme.
 - Where does athletics come in all this? It's hard to see where it fits. It's hard to see which umbrella they might fit in. Community might be where it fits.
 - Can strategic planning and accreditation be parallel – can they be the same thing?
 - If we establish a systemic process, individuals may become less important.
- How do we organize the various assessment institutions to work together to ask for data at the same time and in the same way. We are not talking about specialized accreditation, but rather state agencies and regional agencies.
- Any thoughts on the new standards process?
 - Very important that we get page limits for years document and other documents.
 - Documentation is also an issue – what is the limit of documents required?
 - Dialogue between the six regional would be very important. A little more communication between the six would help.