

Day 33: Did you know that CMU is expected to meet the Higher Learning Commission's (HLC) Assumed Practices in addition to documenting how it meets the Criteria for Accreditation?

While most of CMU's preparation for its comprehensive evaluation has focused on evidence in support of HLC's criteria, the University is also expected to meet the Commission's Assumed Practices. Assumed Practices are the "givens," the fundamental, routine, core practices shared by higher education institutions regardless of mission, governance, or other contextual considerations.

Unlike the criteria, HLC determines if an institution meets an assumed practice by facts rather than professional judgment. HLC does not require that institutions explicitly address the practices, but if an external review finds an institution not meeting a practice, a review can be initiated to determine if the institution is out of compliance. Because the Assumed Practices are related to the Criteria, an institution undertaking an evaluation is expected to assess if it meets the practices, if it is no longer does so, it should take immediate corrective action. The broad areas covered by HLC's Assumed Practices are:

1. Integrity: Ethical and Responsible Conduct
2. Teaching and Learning: Quality, Resources, and Support
3. Teaching and Learning: Evaluation and Improvement
4. Resources, Planning, and Institutional Effectiveness

If you are not familiar with HLC's Assumed Practices, go to: <https://www.hlcommission.org/policies/assumed-practices.html>. If you are familiar, consider taking several minutes to peruse the most recent version, dated September 2017, which includes several updates.

HLC Assurance Review Steering Committee

Morgan, Bridge, Professor of Business, Chair

Jeremy Brown, Vice President for Information Technology

Carol Futhey, Provost

Jeremy Hawkins, Associate Professor of Kinesiology; Chair, Criterion 2 Committee

John Marshall, Vice President for Student Services

Heather McKim, Senior Research Analyst

Randy Phillis, Professor of English; Chair, Criterion 1 Committee

Joe Richards, Professor of Chemistry; Chair, Criterion 5 Committee

Bryan Rooks, Co-Director of Athletics

Bette Schans, Professor of Radiologic Technology and Director of Assessment of Student Learning; Chair, Criterion 4 Committee

Steve Werman, Professor of Biology; Chair, Criterion 3 Committee