



**HLC: 2 Days and Counting...Did You Know?**  
**November 16, 2013**

**Did you know that in 2014 Colorado Mesa University will begin to engage in *ongoing self-study* through the new HLC “Pathways” program?**

Under this new program, CMU will collect evidence of operational quality and effectiveness on an ongoing basis. Instead of writing a large comprehensive report on a ten-year cycle, CMU will collect information and submit data in addition to the annual update currently in use. Additionally, the HLC may visit CMU twice within each ten-year period, once after four years, and later, at the ten-year mark. For CMU, visit years would be during Academic Years 2017-18 and 2023-24.

The new Pathways program has two major components: “quality assurance” and “quality improvement.” In the quality assurance component, CMU will maintain ongoing evidence and documentation of its operations report on how the institution is continuing to meet the criteria established by the HLC. As for the quality improvement component, CMU will respond to concerns identified by the current self-study process. The campus will choose concrete improvement projects, implement them, and then report on how they address HLC requirements, thereby demonstrating that CMU is not only engaged in maintaining quality, but is also committed to engaging in continuous quality improvement.

You can “Learn about the Commission’s New Pathways for Reaffirmation of Accreditation” at: <http://www.ncahlc.org/Information-for-Institutions/pathways.html>. For more details about the new “Process Requirements for Each Pathway,” go to: <http://policy.ncahlc.org/Process-for-Reaffirmation/requirements-for-each-pathway.html>.