



HLC: 5 Days and Counting...Did You Know?
November 13, 2013

Did you know, that in addition to the efforts of faculty members to improve instruction through on-going assessment activities, the University practices a continuous improvement philosophy across the campus, illustrated by examples in the Self-Study 5D2-1 and 5D2-2 narratives?

In addition to the program review process described earlier, program-level data are compiled annually for each academic program and department. Course enrollments by term, credit hour activity (by program, student level, and type of faculty appointment), number of majors and minors, retention, and number of degrees awarded are all aggregated by department and program. These reports are then distributed to each academic department head by the President and Vice President for Academic Affairs and are the basis for discussions about the need for more faculty, courses that might need to be reviewed for low enrollment, or other program concerns.

CMU administrators understand the larger context of the University, are knowledgeable about trends in their areas of responsibility, and learn from experiences within the organization and those at other institutions. Further, the University's organizational culture, and the values and guiding principles reflected in the strategic plan, all point to over-arching commitments to continuous learning and improvement. Taken collectively, the administration's knowledge base and institutional commitments have produced a strong record of accomplishments implemented by 1) routinely monitoring of all aspects of CMU operations, 2) regularly investigating perceived opportunities and deficiencies, 3) appropriately responding to what was observed, and 4) "closing the loop" by collecting data to evaluate the outcomes of an action. These improvements demonstrate an organizational willingness to adapt when called for – at times rather quickly –and were documented throughout the self-study.

Click [here](#) to see numerous examples of institutional improvements over the last decade.

Please note that in the Self-Study Report, maroon text indicates the HLC's criteria for accreditation, while CMU's response is in black text, with links to supporting documentation identified by blue text (available only in web-version of the report in MAVzone).