



January 19, 2006

DEANS OF ACADEMIC COLLEGES

Dr. Moises Orengo, Dean, College of Arts & Sciences
Dr. Ramón E. Vásquez Espinosa, Dean, College of Engineering
Dr. John Fernández Van Cleve, Dean, College of Agricultural Sciences
Prof. Eva Quiñones, Dean, College of Business Administration

Dear Colleagues:

In response to our campus-wide accreditation visit in March last year, Judith L. Gay, Chair, Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) emitted a letter dated June 23, 2005 stating that we would need to submit a monitoring report to them by April 1, 2007. Specifically, one of the items requested by MSCHE is ***“progress made in the implementation of comprehensive institutional assessment and student learning assessment plans.”*** Obviously, this mandates that each academic program has a student learning assessment plan in place, which is being followed (implemented), and which also embraces the ***institutional student learning outcomes***. These institutional student learning outcomes have been addressed in many such assessment plans across the four colleges, although, some of them do not specifically address such outcomes and appear to have been hastily prepared for the MSCHE visit. Therefore, in these latter cases, the student learning assessment plans would also need to be revised to exhibit consistency. All faculty representatives are part of the Academic Steering Team.

The Academic Steering Team of this Office suggested that in order to comply with the MSCHE requirements (or as a matter of fact with ABET, or any other accreditation requirements, where continuous improvement is the prime focus), each college should submit two (2) reports by the end of this calendar year [one (1) report at the conclusion of each semester] documenting the progress made in the implementation of student learning assessment plans.

I am separately working on the aspects of the implementation (and development) of assessment plans at the institutional (administrative) levels in conjunction with our Administrative Steering Team.

Sincerely,

Anand D. Sharma
Director

cc: Dr. Jorge I. Vélez Arocho, Chancellor
Dr. Mildred Chaparro, Dean, Academic Affairs
Dr. Antonio González, Director, OIIP
Faculty Representatives, Academic Steering Team