



Dear Colleagues,

As you know, our 2 ½ -year Middle States Self-Study Process is approaching the final turn with our Evaluation Team visit scheduled for April 1-4, 2012. More than 130 individuals representing a wide spectrum of our campus community met during the last two years as part of seven Working Groups. These groups, taken together, were charged with addressing the 14 Middle States Standards of Excellence. They diligently researched each fundamental element associated with assigned standards to demonstrate the College's compliance and progress. Drafts of Working Group reports were reviewed by and revised for the Steering Committee throughout the Spring 2011 semester.

During the summer months, the seven Working Group reports were edited under the Provost's supervision into a draft document with unified style and voice. The document has as its primary focus to clearly demonstrate compliance with the 14 Standards of Excellence. Care was taken to address the College's Special Emphasis, "Developing and Strengthening Evidence-Based Decision-Making to Continue Building Institutional Effectiveness."

The members of the Middle States Steering Committee are in the process of reviewing the Self-Study draft and will be meeting on Friday, October 7, 2011, to continue their work. The Provost has asked us to share the first draft with our colleagues across campus and invite feedback and suggestions. We encourage you to access the draft at <http://www.csi.cuny.edu/middlestates/>. Similar to the Strategic Planning Process last year, additional opportunities and venues will soon be made available for comment and feedback. Please note that another round of edits is planned; all figures, budget items, and institutional data will be checked and confirmed in another round of editing.

Preparations to host our team of evaluators, which have been underway for many months, are ramping up in pace and scope. There is much to do related to finalizing the self-study document, preparing the campus, and organizing the details of the visit schedule. We appreciate everyone's thoughtful participation and invite timely feedback.

Please address comments to us (Susan Holak and Richard Powers) or to any member of the Steering Committee noted below. You can also post on the Middle States Self-Study Discussion Board available at <http://www.csi.cuny.edu/middlestates/>. We would be pleased to receive comments for discussion during our Steering Committee meeting on October 7, and will continue to process feedback and suggestions to meet the self-study timeline milestones.

Thank you for your continued participation in this important transformational campus process. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Susan Holak
Co-chair

Richard Powers
Co-chair

Middle States Steering Committee Membership

Warrick Bell
Ramona Brown
Alex Chigogidze
Barbara Cohen
Abdeslem El Idrissi
Richard Flanagan
Christine Flynn Saulnier
William Fritz
Susan Holak
Ken Iwama
Michael Kress
Catherine Lavender
Charles Liu
Ann Lubrano
Edward Miller
Mary O'Donnell
Ira Persky
Deborah Popper
Richard Powers
Mary Beth Reilly