

# NORTHERN New Mexico College



## CQR Accreditation Visit Update

Number 1 (March 11, 2016)

### *Hello Northern Faculty and Staff:*

*As team of peer reviewers from the Higher Learning Commission will be visiting our campus soon. Over the next six weeks, you will receive a CQR Update each Friday with information about the visit, ideas for how your area can prepare, and campus-wide efforts that we can all participate in. This week we are starting with the Who/What/When/Where/Why of the visit.*

*Thank you for your support!*

*CQR Action Project Committee*

### **What is the Comprehensive Quality Review? What is accreditation?**

Institutional accreditation assesses the capacity of an institution to assure its own quality and expects it to produce evidence that it does so. During the CQR, peer reviewers will visit NNMC to see how we are doing on an institutional level. The CQR reviewers draw information from the institution's previous Systems Portfolio, the CQR Quality Highlights Report, and other institutional documents to determine if the Criteria are being met. For institutional accreditation it is important for us to remember that we are ALL part of what makes Northern great; no part is greater than the whole.

### **Goals**

- Affirming accuracy of NNMC's Systems Portfolio
- Reviewing Action Projects
- Addressing NNMC's response to the Systems Appraisal feedback report
- Assuring continuing organizational quality improvement commitment
- Confirming NNMC's compliance with accreditation expectations
- Counseling NNMC concerning issues that require immediate attention
- Reviewing and updating the relationship between NNMC and HLC

### **Who is part of the CQR Team? What will they be doing while they are visiting campus?**

A team of peer reviewers will conduct an on-site visit to verify that the claims made by the institution in the Systems Portfolio and Quality Highlights Report are accurate. Three peer reviewers visit the institution's main campus or administrative offices for two and a half days to conduct interviews and collect additional evidence.

In advance of the visit, the peer review team receives the Quality Highlights Report, Federal Compliance Packet, Student Opinion Survey results and Institutional Update data, along with the institution's most recent Systems Portfolio, Systems Appraisal, Action Project update and Interim Reports (if any).

The peer review team also verifies that the institution has established a culture of continuous quality improvement and determines whether the institution's Action Projects are facilitating that improvement.

### When will the review team be at Northern?

The team of peer reviewers will be on campus from April 25-27, 2016.

### Where will they be?

The team will be using the Vice Presidents' Conference Room in the Administration Office as their locked work room, but you can anticipate that different members of the peer review team will be visiting offices, people, and students all around campus. Please be aware of our guests and try to be as helpful as possible while they are here on campus.

### Why do we have to go through accreditation?

The Comprehensive Quality Review (CQR) is part of the comprehensive evaluation conducted in Year 8 of the AQIP Pathway and determines if an institution meets the Criteria for Accreditation. Institutional advances in continuous quality improvement are also reviewed during the CQR.

### How can I prepare?

NNMC Office of Institutional Research and the CQR Action Team prepared the following institutional documents of which we should all be familiar. Take a look the [Systems Portfolio](#), if you don't have time to look at the whole thing, find the area that most fits your work and become familiar with it. Read the [CQR Quality Highlights Report](#). Not everyone will be interviewed by the peer review team, but we should all have a familiarity with our institutional work because 1) everyone is working really hard and we should celebrate that, and 2) it takes us all to make Northern work.

AQIP Systems Portfolio - <http://tinyurl.com/AQIPSystem15>

CQR Quality Highlights Report - <http://tinyurl.com/CQRreport>

### If I have questions, concerns or would like to be more involved, whom can I contact?

Carmella Sanchez, Director of Institutional Research, 747-2118, [carmella@nnmc.edu](mailto:carmella@nnmc.edu)

Tamara Trujillo, Asst. Director of Institutional Research, 747-2224, [tamara@nnmc.edu](mailto:tamara@nnmc.edu)

**SAVE  
THE  
DATE!**

#### All Faculty/Staff In-Service

April 1, 2016

8:30-3:30 pm

Room: TBD

#### Agenda: Institutional Preparedness for CQR Visit

- Overview of Visit
- Stakes of Accreditation
- Team Building for Campus Improvement
- Distribution of CQR Fast Facts
- ...and more!

**Please make every effort to attend. At least one representative member of every area should be in attendance. Please plan schedules accordingly.**

**Is your  
department or  
program  
website up-to-  
date?**

Need assistance?

Contact

Sandy Krolick  
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or Deborah Trujillo  
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