

## **Issues from Accreditation Report 2007 Eastern New Mexico University- Portales**

**Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association** (Visit, March 2007; report, fall 2007)

- Overall. every criterion was judged to be met. No Commission follow-up was recommended or required except for a follow-up on assessment for the Ruidoso campus in 2010.

### Assurances--Areas for attention

- Concern that some faculty see governance as “burdensome” (page 7)
- Mission statement needs reference to the award of associate’s degrees (page 7)
- No comprehensive annual gift campaign, though the Development Office assists departments with limited mailings to alumni requesting support. (page 8)
- ENMU envisions a technology-driven future for teaching and learning but (according to the graduate committee, deans, chairs, and faculty) the institution does not have a plan to actualize that vision. “The team sees this as an evolution that is already underway at the institution.” (page 9)
- “Although the institution has made progress in assessment, improvement is still needed. Namely, academic units are in different places in the process .... The team is confident that increased improvements in assessment of developmental education and general and cross-disciplinary programs will ensue and that ENMU will integrate student learning assessment into every facet of University decision-making, including planning and budgeting.” (page 10)
- Need for increased attention to assessment on the Ruidoso campus; progress report required on July 1, 2010 (page 11). Additional comment: 93% of Ruidoso faculty members are adjunct and are teaching 78% of the courses. Full-time faculty numbers will increase in the coming year. (page 12)
- Interest on campus in increasing students’ critical thinking abilities. (page 12)

### Advancement

- Alternative sources of funding—University encouraged to seek these to enhance technology-driven education and HSI-standing.
- The way the University identifies needs for technology and allocates resources is an area of concern and focused attention. (page 3)
- Off-site delivery modalities are important and ENMU can define a niche for the future in technology-driven education.
- Honors programs and study abroad programs may add enrollment from high-ability student population
- Additional resources in developmental studies may be needed (e.g., dedicated computer lab, additional full-time faculty, etc.) (page 4)
- Systematic approach to critical thinking enhancement (page 4)
- Mission statement reference to associate degrees needed. (page 4)
- Banked Load Credit (frustration with policy). The report states the credits not used in 5 years are lost. (Incorrect.)
- Faculty members also want better access to “major libraries and electronic databases” (page 4)
- ENMU offers a large number of majors relative to size. “A review of degree offerings ... with consideration of elimination or revision of some, might lead to greater efficiencies and quality for the remaining” (page 5).