

# **MIDDLE STATES UPDATE**

**STANDARD 1: MISSION AND GOALS**

# GOALS FOR TODAY

Share theme emerging from Working Teams so that our campus community can provide feedback that will inform the teams work



# TIMELINE OF THE SELF-STUDY

- Spring 2017: Working Teams formed and created evidence lists
- Summer 2017: Evidence Library was created
- Fall 2017: Working teams are reviewing evidence and writing reports  
Campus Update: a time for campus community to provide feedback
- Winter/Spring 2017: Self-Study is drafted and sent to campus community for feedback
- Summer 2018: Self-Study is updated based on feedback and sent to the Board of Trustees and President for final review
- Fall 2018: Self-Study is approved by Board of Trustees, preparations for External Team visit begin
- Spring 2019: External Review Team visits and provides recommendations
- Summer 2019: Middle States reviews documentation and votes on reaccreditation

# PURPOSE OF THE SELF-STUDY

- Ultimately to show Middle States we are meeting the Standards and Requirements of Affiliation in order to be reaccredited
- Middle States requires us to...
  - Reflect on what we do well
  - Provide an honest assessment of our challenges
  - Make 3-5 “big picture” mission-critical recommendations of how Hartwick can improve in the future



# STANDARD 1

- Hartwick's mission defines its purpose within the context of higher education, the students it serves, and what it intends to accomplish. Hartwick's stated goals are clearly linked to its mission and specify how Hartwick fulfills its mission.

# WHAT WORKING TEAM 1 HAS FOUND THAT HARTWICK IS DOING WELL:

- Hartwick's mission statement is clearly stated and appears in a consistent manner in many of the Colleges' hard-copy and electronic documents intended for both internal and external audiences.
- The mission statement and organizing principle (“OP&SF”) define Hartwick as a liberal arts college (or, as an institution which places a liberal arts education at the center of its values), thus defining its purpose within the context of higher education.
- The use and appearance of the expanded or modified OP&SF statement in several hard-copy and electronic documents clearly links the College’s goals to its mission.

# WHAT WORKING TEAM 1 HAS FOUND AS HARTWICK'S OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT:

- The College's website (specifically, the page titled "Mission and Philosophy") includes the mission statement but does not explicitly list the College's goals.
- Some constituencies appear not to be fully aware of the College's goals.
- There is no explicit mention of students in the existing mission statement, although it does mention an "engaged community".
- Student perceptions about the mission and goals, and other indicators of the quality of experiential learning, need to be better assessed.

# WHAT SYSTEMS AND PROCESSES DO WE HAVE IN PLACE TO ASSESS ITEMS INCLUDED UNDER STANDARD 1?

- OP&SF annual updates and academic/departamental assessment plans/reports are a means of periodically assessing achievement of institutional and student learning goals. This process also deals with issues of relevance and achievability.
- The Mission was last formally assessed in 2010-2011.
- In October 2017, the Board of Trustees resolved to assure the review of the College Mission Statement through an inclusive process every eight years, or more frequently if requested by the Board or the President, with the next review to occur during the 2019-2020 academic year.



# DISCUSSION

MISSION AND GOALS

# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

[Please click here to submit your answers:](#)

- How often do you consider the organizing principle when considering a recommendation, decision, or action?
- What ways might the College help you to better integrate the mission and goals into your daily work?

# THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING TODAY'S UPDATE!

- For more information about our Middle States process go to:  
<https://www.hartwick.edu/academics/student-services/academic-affairs/assessment/middle-states-accreditation/>

