September 6, 2011

Dear Colleagues,

As you are probably aware, our institutional accreditors, The Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, recently adopted a new set of standards. These standards move from a ten-year cycle to a seven-year cycle. The phase-in of the new standards required that some institutions complete their first seven-year accreditation cycle in four years. ISU is one of those institutions. As a result, our Accreditation Steering Committee has been working on an accelerated schedule to prepare our Standard One, as well as begun work on our Standard Two, self evaluations.

The Standard One report must be submitted by September 15th. We have placed a copy on the Academic Affairs website at http://www.isu.edu/acadaff/accreditation.shtml. Also on the website is the description of Standard One, and the Guidelines for Preparation of the Standard One Report.

You will see that the core themes remain the same as when we presented them last spring university-wide and college by college. The steering committee would welcome any comments/corrections/suggestions you might have. Please send them to Alan Egger (eggealan@isu.edu). It is important to note that the new standards build year by year and it is expected that the year one submission will be revised in the course of the year two, three, and four submissions. The steering committee will continue to refine the document for the next week. The appendix, in particular is not fully complete. I encourage you to review the draft and forward any input to Dr. Egger by 5:00 pm this Friday, so we can incorporate suggested changes over the weekend. I apologize for the short turn-around time, but meeting the accelerated schedule for preparation of this report has proven to be a challenge.

Most Sincerely,

Barbara Adamcik
Interim Provost and
Co-Chair of the Accreditation Steering Committee