



The Road to STATE'S REAFFIRMATION 2015



Dear Students, Faculty and Staff;

Throughout our illustrious and storied history, West Virginia State University (WVSU) has achieved many “firsts.” This designation, by the simplest definition of the word “first,” showcases WVSU as an institution of quality and leadership within the State. We should look no further than our status as the first and longest continuously accredited institution of higher learning in the State of West Virginia.

Accreditation is the supreme testament to our University’s high quality programs, degrees, students, faculty and staff. It is now time for our fine institution to once again seek reaffirmation of our accreditation and continue our legacy as the longest accredited institution of higher learning in the state. Your participation is instrumental in this process and each of you have much to gain.

For our students, reaffirmation of our institution’s accreditation confirms the quality of education you are receiving at WVSU and speaks volumes to your future employers. For our faculty, this process provides in-depth evidence as to the rigor of the programs you provide to students as well as that of your own high-quality, on-going scholarly work. Reaffirmation of our institution’s accreditation also confirms the outstanding efforts of our staff to deliver the very best for all University stakeholders.

The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA) is the accrediting body for WVSU. Our reaffirmation of accreditation is reviewed in-depth by the HLC. The process began in March 2012 with a two-year self-study that included representatives from all areas of the University and culminates with a campus visit from the HLC on April 13-15, 2015. As the April 2015 visit approaches, there will be a time for University stakeholders as well as public comment directly to the HLC. During their visit, HLC reviewers may ask you questions about the University. To prepare for the review and visit, we will bring you regular updates about the self-study and reaffirmation process through a new electronic newsletter, “The Road to STATE’S Reaffirmation 2015.” When you receive this newsletter, I encourage you to pause from your busy day to read and become an active participant in the future of our fine institution.

I appreciate your support and participation of our reaffirmation efforts and invite you to begin by exploring the newly created Accreditation webpages now prominently featured on our University website.

Again, we were the first and as such have a legacy to uphold. More importantly, we have a bright future ahead of us.

GO STATE!

Brian O. Hemphill, Ph.D.
President