

United Tribes Technical College will undergo a comprehensive evaluation visit April 18-20, 2011, by a team representing the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. United Tribes Technical College has been accredited by the Commission since 1982.

It is accredited at the Associate of Applied Science degree levels, and offers degree programs on campus as well as online. The HLC evaluation team will be reviewing the College's ongoing ability to meet the Commission's Criteria for Accreditation.

Through the upcoming evaluation process, UTTC will also be requesting Commission approval to offer Baccalaureate degrees and to expand its online programs.

SHARING OUR STORIES

United Tribes Technical College Self-Study

In preparation for the comprehensive visit, the College has been engaged in a self-study, addressing the Commission's requirements and criteria for accreditation. UTTC is using the self-study as an opportunity to gather and share its stories about the impact and success of the college. We would like to provide an opportunity for the public to share their stories of their experiences and interactions with United Tribes Technical College.

The Commission accredits more than 1,000 colleges and universities in nineteen states. The states are Arkansas, Arizona, Colorado, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma, New Mexico, South Dakota, Wisconsin, West Virginia, and Wyoming

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President, United
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College

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United Tribes Technical College Self-Study

NCA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A self-study executive committee has been established under the direction of the self-study chair, Russell Swagger. The members are: Kathy Johnson, Dorvin Froseth, Leah Hamann, Monte Schaff, Suzan O'Connell, Dr. Stacie Iken, Dr. Phil Baird, Dr. Jen Janecek-Hartman, and Nathan Stratton. Kathy Johnson serves as secretary. Leah Hamann serves as the content specialist, and Dorvin Froseth serves as the documentation specialist.

The following sub-committees have been established within the executive committee.

Communications Team: Dorvin Froseth, Monte Schaff, and Leah Hamann

Writing Team: Dr. Russell Swagger, Suzan O'Connell, and Dr. Stacie Iken



DR. RUSSELL SWAGGER

Self-Study Chair
Vice President,
Student &
Campus Services



DR. ROBERT APPLESON

UTTC/HLC
Staff Liaison
Vice President
for Accreditation
Relations



KATHY JOHNSON

Senior Associate
Vice President,
Student &
Campus Services



DORVIN FROSETH

Faculty, Business
& Office
Technology
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LEAH HAMANN

Faculty, Teacher
Education
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SUZAN O'CONNELL

Director, Major
Gifts & Alumni
Relations, Office
of Institutional
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DR. STACIE IKEN

Director, Upper
Division
Programs



DR. PHILL BAIRD

Vice President,
Academic, Career
& Technical
Education



DR. JEN JANECEK-HARTMAN

Chair, Tribal
Environmental
Science
Department



NATHAN STRATTON

Associate Vice
President,
Enrollment
Management &
Student Finance



MONTE SCHAFF

Interim Director,
Distance &
Continuing
Education



NATHAN DUNN

Student, Tribal
Management



JERILEE ST. CYR

Student,
Elementary
Education



DAVID ONE HORN

Student, Small
Business
Management

SELF-STUDY MEMBERSHIP

SHARING OUR STORIES

STEERING COMMITTEE:

A Steering Committee comprised of faculty, staff, students and campus administrators has been established to assist with the preparation of the self-study and to participate in the NCA site team's visit in April 2011.

United Tribes Technical College Self-Study

The Steering Committee members are:



F. SAM AZURE

Vice President, Childhood Education



DR. HARRIETT SKYE

Vice President, Intertribal Programs



BARBARA LITTLE OWL

Director, Human Resources



LISA AZURE

Chair, Teacher Education Department



SHERI BEARKING-BAKER

Associate Vice President, Community Wellness



TOM DISSELHORST

Legal Counsel



BRIAN PALECEK

Faculty, General Education Department



BARBARA SCHMITT

Director, Economic Development



CHARLENE WEIS

Librarian



EVELYN ORTH

Chair, Practical Nursing Department



CAROL ANDERSON

Chair, Business Management Department



PAT AUNE

Director, Land Grant Program



LYNELLE LAWLER

Director, Exact Med Transcription Training



RED KOCH

Supervisor, Transportation Department



RYAN HERTEL

Senior Accountant, Finance Department



WANDA SWAGGER

Business Manager, Finance Department



GLEN FOX

Student, Business Administration



REBEKAH OLSON

Faculty, Tribal Environmental Science Department



SHARING OUR STORIES

United Tribes Technical College Self-Study

THE CRITERIA FOR ACCREDITATION

The Criteria for Accreditation are organized under five major headings. Each Criterion has three elements: Criterion Statement, Core Components, and Examples of Evidence.

The Criteria Statements define necessary attributes of an institution accredited by the Commission. An institution must be judged to have met each of the Criteria to merit accreditation.

An institution addresses each Core Component as it presents reasonable and representative evidence of meeting a Criterion.

The Examples of Evidence illustrate the types of evidence an institution might present in addressing a Core Component.

CRITERION ONE:

MISSION AND INTEGRITY

The institution operates with integrity to ensure the fulfillment of its mission through structures and processes that involve the board, administration, faculty, staff, and students.

CRITERION TWO:

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

The institution's allocation of resources and its processes for evaluation and planning demonstrate its capacity to fulfill its mission, improve the quality of its education, and respond to future challenges and opportunities.

CRITERION THREE:

STUDENT LEARNING AND EFFECTIVE TEACHING

The institution provides evidence of student learning and teaching effectiveness that demonstrates it is fulfilling its educational mission.

CRITERION FOUR:

ACQUISITION, DISCOVERY, AND APPLICATION OF KNOWLEDGE

The institution promotes a life of learning for its faculty, administration, staff, and students by fostering and supporting inquiry, creativity, practice, and social responsibility in ways consistent with its mission.

CRITERION FIVE:

ENGAGEMENT AND SERVICE

As called for by its mission, the institution identifies its constituencies and serves them in ways both value.

GOALS OF THE UTTC SELF STUDY AND NCA RE-ACCREDITATION

Goals for the process are to be re-accredited for another ten year cycle; to request an institutional change to offer bachelor degrees in Elementary Education and Business Management, and a request to offer additional online AAS degrees.

Commission Evaluation Participation Status UTTC participates under the Program to Evaluate and Advance Quality (PEAQ) PEAQ employs a five-step comprehensive evaluation process to determine continued accredited status.

- The institution engages in a self-study process for approximately two years and prepares a report of its findings in accordance with Commission expectations.
- The Commission sends an evaluation team of Consultant-Evaluators to conduct a comprehensive visit for continued accreditation and to write a report containing the team's recommendations.
- The documents relating to the comprehensive visit are reviewed by a Readers Panel or, in some situations, a Review Committee.
- A decision-making body takes action on the Reader's Panel recommendation.
- In certain circumstances, the Board of Trustees takes the final action.

COMMON QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT ACCREDITATION

What is accreditation?

UTTC voluntarily commits to accreditation. The purpose of accreditation is to ensure quality and to provide the impetus for continuing evaluation and improvement. Not only is UTTC accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA), other academic programs in the College are accredited by their own disciplinary accrediting bodies.

Why is accreditation important?

Without accreditation, the diploma that students receive at graduation is merely a piece of paper, UTTC students are not eligible for federal financial aid, and UTTC faculty and staff are not eligible for grants from federal agencies.

Who is our accrediting body?

The Higher Learning Commission, a branch of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The commission is commonly referred to as NCA or North Central.

What is a Self-Study?

A document that summarizes and critiques the processes, structures, and programs of the College over the past 10 years. The report responds to five Criteria for Accreditation as required by the Higher Learning Commission. UTTC's Self-Study report is organized into two volumes.

Who wrote the Self-Study?

The self-study was written collaboratively by members of the Self-Study Steering Committee who worked in partnership with various departments across the campus to gather and organize information to include in the document.

What is a comprehensive visit?

The NCA consultant-evaluators will visit UTTC to confirm that what we stated in the Self-Study is accurate. The consultant-evaluators will be looking for evidence that UTTC is fulfilling its mission as a college. The underlying question is where does UTTC fall on the continuum of strong, vibrant college? They will be checking patterns of evidence, interviewing various members of the campus community, and confirming our processes and infrastructure.

Who are the consultant-evaluators?

The consultant-evaluators will be faculty members, deans, administrators, and university presidents. The consultant-evaluators are as follows:



DR. MICHAEL W. WESTERFIELD
(Team Chair)

Vice President and Dean,
Graduate & Adult Studies
William Woods University
Fulton, MO



DR. ROBERT G. MARTIN

President,
Institute of American Indian & Alaska
Native Culture & Arts Development
Santa Fe, NM



DR. KRISTIN L. MALLORY

Vice President,
Academic & Student Affairs
Bridgemont Community & Technical College
Montgomery, WV



DR. MICHAEL R. WHITE

Director,
Bachelor's Program
Dunwoody College of Technology
Minneapolis, MN

DR. CYNTHIA E. SPIERS

Executive Director, Institutional Effectiveness/Planning, James A. Rhodes State College, Lima, OH

What is UTTC seeking accreditation for?

- Accreditation for another ten-year cycle
- Offering Bachelor Degrees in Elementary Education and Business Management
- Offer additional online degrees

When is the comprehensive visit?

April 18-20, 2011

Where will the consultant-evaluators be?

The consultant-evaluators will visit many locations across campus.

Will the consultant-evaluators meet with other faculty and students?

There will be open forums for faculty, staff, and students to speak with the consultant-evaluators. Schedules and locations will be distributed prior to the visit. The consultant-evaluators might also stop individuals on campus for a brief chat.

What types of questions will the consultant-evaluators ask?

The site visit is not a test! The consultant-evaluators will gather a broad array of perspectives regarding UTTC from students, faculty, staff, and administrators. They may ask members of the college community to describe UTTC based on their own experiences and ask questions about an individual's own area of expertise.

UTTC's Institutional Status may be found at [http:// www.ncahlc.org](http://www.ncahlc.org)

SHARING OUR STORIES

United Tribes Technical College Self-Study

Criterion One:

Mission & Integrity

The organization operates with integrity to ensure the fulfillment of its mission through structures and processes that involve the board, administration, faculty, staff & students.



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United Tribes Technical College Self-Study

Criterion Two:

Preparing for the Future

The organization's allocation of resources and its processes for evaluation and planning demonstrate its capacity to fulfill its mission, improve the quality of its education, and respond to future challenges and opportunities.



United Tribes

Technical College
3315 University Drive
Bismarck, ND 58504



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Criterion Three:

Student Learning & Effective Teaching

The organization provides evidence of student learning and effectiveness that demonstrates it is fulfilling its educational mission.



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United Tribes Technical College Self-Study

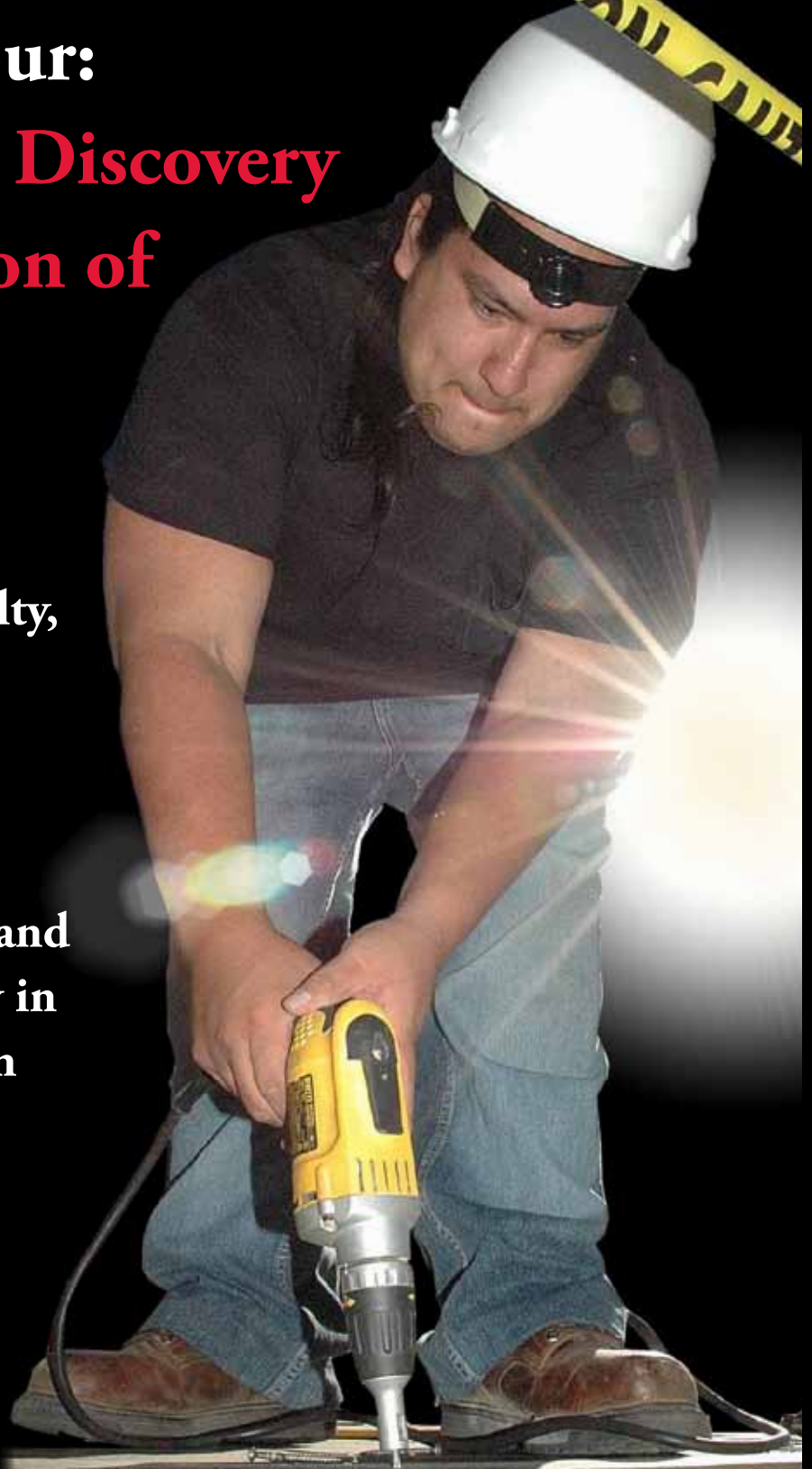
Criterion Four:

**Acquisition, Discovery
& Application of
Knowledge**

The organization promotes a life of learning for its faculty, administration, staff, and students by fostering and supporting inquiry, creativity, practice, and social responsibility in ways consistent with its mission.



3315 University Drive
Bismarck, North Dakota 58504



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Criterion Five:

Engagement & Service

**As called for by its mission,
the organization identifies its
constituencies and serves them
in ways both value.**



MISSION & VISION STATEMENT

MISSION

United Tribes Technical College is dedicated to providing American Indians with postsecondary and technical education in a culturally diverse environment that will provide self-determination and economic development for all tribal nations.

VISION

- United Tribes Technical College is a premiere college, a leader in Tribal education, arts, and cultural preservation; technology; research; and the humanities.
- UTTC foresees a campus community with state-of-the-art facilities.
- UTTC aspires to be self-sustaining in line with its mission for tribal self-sufficiency and self-determination.
- Most importantly, UTTC envisions skilled, knowledgeable, culturally-grounded, healthy graduates who will achieve their educational goals; empower their communities; and preserve the environment, tribal land, water, and natural resources.

VALUES

- United Tribes Technical College Board of Directors, Administration, Staff, Faculty, and Students are guided in their actions by the following values:

U – Unity

N – Native Americans

I – Integrity

T – Trust

E – Education

D – Diversity

T – Traditions

R – Respect

I – Independence

B – Bravery

E – Environment

S – Spirituality

- United Tribes affirms these values as being representative of the tribal medicine wheel concept. This takes into consideration an individual's physical, intellectual, cultural, and emotional wellness. When these ideals are practiced, the UTTC community will flourish.

