



Stony Brook University

# MIDDLE STATES ACCREDITATION STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATE

October 12, 2023

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**Laszlo Mihaly, Professor of Physics | Self-Study Co-Chair**

**Dominick Fortugno, Director of HS Academic Support | Self-Study Co-Chair**

**Braden Hosch, VP for Educ. & Inst. Effectiveness | Accreditation Liaison Officer**

# Middle States Commission on Higher Education Accreditation Standards for Accreditation

**An accredited institution of higher education**

has appropriate **mission**  
(Standard 1)

lives it with **integrity**  
(Standard 2)

delivers an effective **student learning experience**  
(Standard 3)

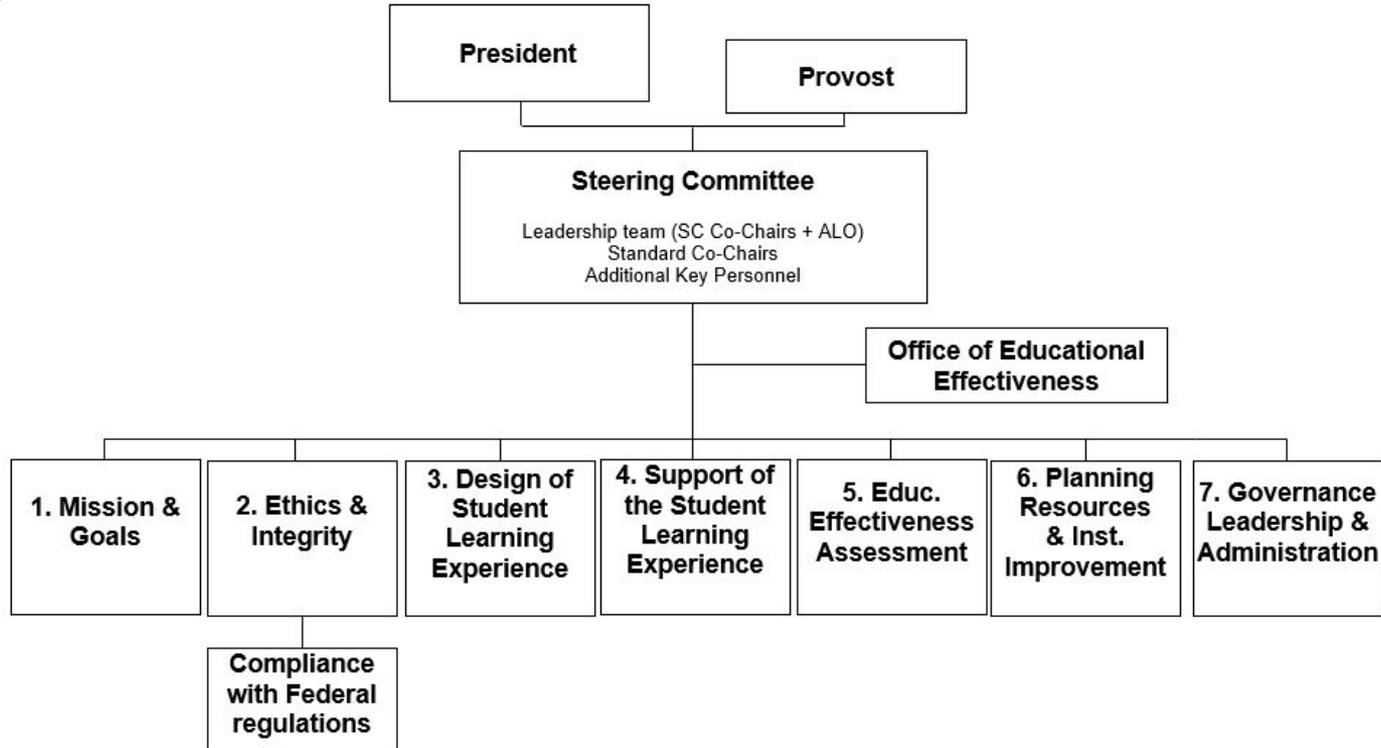
supports the overall **student experience**, both inside and outside of the classroom  
(Standard 4)

assesses its own **educational effectiveness**  
(Standard 5)

uses **planning and resources to ensure institutional improvement**  
(Standard 6) and

is characterized by effective **governance, leadership, and administration**  
(Standard 7)

# Organizational Structure



# Steering Committee Members

Leadership Team		Additional Members	
Fortugno, Dominick	SBM Finance & Admin	Belazi, Ahmed	Student Affairs
Mihaly, Laszlo	Physics & Astronomy	Cooke, Ellen	Marketing & Comm
Hosch, Braden	Educ & Inst Effectiveness	Hachmann, Kim	Educational Effectiveness
Working Group Co-Chairs		Law, Kevin	Stony Brook Council
Ballan, Michelle	Social Welfare	Lobosco, Devin	UG Student Government
Savoca, Marianna	Career Center	Martis, Joanne	Graduate Student
Cohen, David	Medicine	McLaughlin, Heather	Information Technology
Kukta, Robert	CEAS	Montague, Heather	Financial Affairs
Sharma, Shyam	Writing	Nagaraj, Ajith	Advancement
Tirotta-Esposito, Rose	CELT	Scott, Catherine	Educational Effectiveness
Gergen, Peter	UG Biology	Shaikh, Usama	DI3
Germana, Shelley	UG Education	Thomas, Donal	Graduate Student Organization
Teany, Derek	Physics & Astronomy	Tumminello, Donna	Research
Gropack, Stacy	Health Professions	Wertheim, William	School of Medicine
Finkelstein, Stacey	Business		
Gonzalez, Carmen	Procurement		
Marshik, Celia	English/Grad School		
Sutton-Young, Tasheka	President's Office		

# Work Group 1-4 Participants

<b>STANDARD 1</b>	<b>STANDARD 2</b>	<b>STANDARD 3</b>	<b>STANDARD 4</b>
<b>Mission and Goals</b>	<b>Ethics and Integrity</b>	<b>Design of Student Learning Experience</b>	<b>Support of the Student Experience</b>
Marianna Savoca (Co-Chair) Michelle Ballan (Co-Chair)	David Cohen (Co-Chair) Robert Kukta (Co-Chair)	Rose Tirotta-Esposito (Co-Chair) Shaym Sharma (Co-Chair)	Peter Gergen (Co-Chair) Shelley Germana (Co-Chair)
Alan Inkles Brook Ellison Dale Coffin Danling Jiang Jamie Saragossi Jeremy Marchese Maria Fernandez-Serra Maria Nagan Riccardo McClendon Shubham Jain Student Member: Vacant	Adam Fertmann Debbie Dejong Diane Bello Donna Buehler Doug Panico Marjolie Leonard Nistha Boghra Robbye Kinkade Stanislaus Wong Terry Early Tracy Haas Wanda Moore	Christine Fena Devin Lobosco Elizabeth Newman* Jennifer Dellaposta Keval Amin Scott Sutherland Sharon Cuff Susan Ryan Suzanne Velazquez Trista Lu	Carolyn Stephenson Cheryl Chambers David Black David Rubenstein Deborah Serling Holly Colognato Joseph Bae Uzair Mahmud Karian Wright Pamela Matzner Richard Beatty Roger Thompson Stacey Zannettis Thomas Hemmick

# Work Group 5-7 Participants

## STANDARD 5

### Educational Effectiveness Assessment

Derek Teaney (Co-Chair)  
Stacy Gropack (Co-Chair)

Alan Tucker  
Alexandra Borriello  
Alexis Anagnostopoulos  
Amy Milligan  
Catherine Scott  
Deborah Zelizer  
Denise Snow  
Erica Hackley  
Judith Lochhead  
Peter Khost  
Stefan Judex  
Wei-Hsin Lu  
William Collins

## STANDARD 6

### Planning, Resources, and Institutional Improvement

Stacey Finkelstein (Co-Chair)  
Carmen Gonzalez (Co-Chair)

Alexander Vanguens  
Axel Drees  
Carla Caglioti  
Cathy Ribando  
Clinton Rubin  
Diane Fischer  
Dominique Barone  
Glen Itzkowitz  
John Kent  
John Riley  
Joyce Wellinger  
Karla Mason-Morrison  
Michael Ospitale

## STANDARD 7

### Governance

Celia Marshik (Co-chair)  
Tasheka Sutton-Young (Co-Chair)

David Nida  
Imin Kao  
Kara Desanna  
Kimberly Dixon  
Luca Rallis  
Lyle Gomes  
Miguel Garcia-Diaz  
Paula DiPasquale-Alvarez  
Richard Larson  
Styliani-Anna Tsirka

# Timeline of Major Events in 2023-24



## Ch. 1 Overview

**Chapter 1** examines the University's mission and goals in the context of global operations and strategic planning processes.

The chapter showcases successes accomplished from strategic planning in the 2010s and how the University's new strategic plan was collaboratively developed and will guide the University for the next five years.



STANDARD 1:  
MISSION AND GOALS

## Ch. 1 Recommendations

- Publish the mission in the four academic bulletins, include the mission in the published strategic plan and place the mission in a more prominent place on the University website
- Communicate contents of the strategic plan more prominently than the last plan was promoted.
- Communicate progress, success, and shortcomings on strategic plan initiatives well beyond the leadership team so that students, faculty, and staff understand progress.



**STANDARD 1:  
MISSION AND GOALS**



## Ch. 2 Overview

**Chapter 2** presents the University's policies and practices to ensure ethics and integrity with a focus on promoting a welcoming environment in which all students, faculty, and staff can thrive.

## Ch. 2 Recommendations

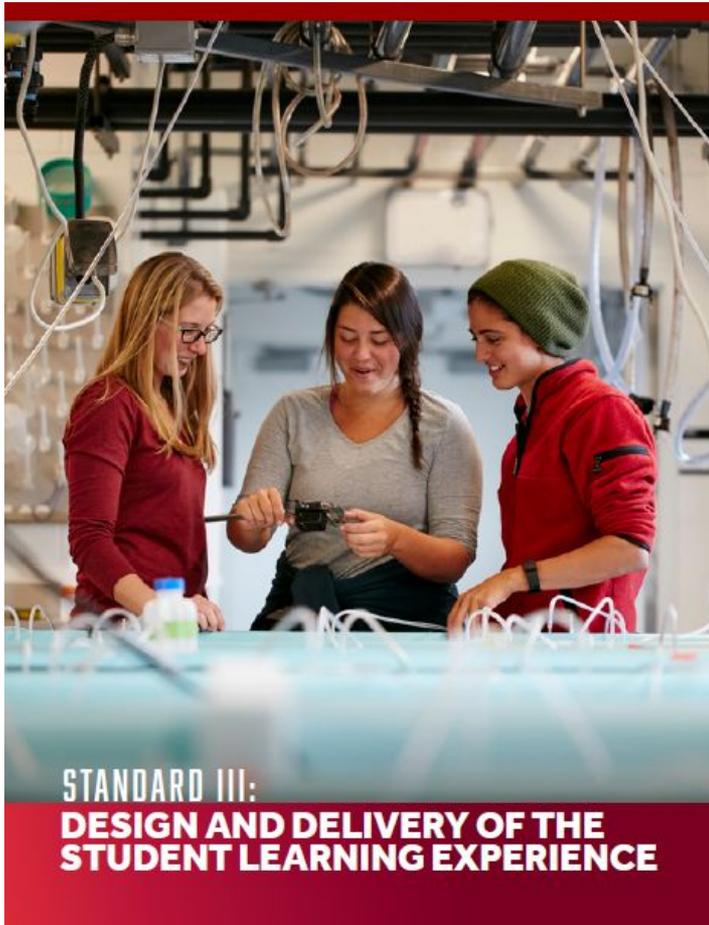


### STANDARD II: ETHICS AND INTEGRITY

- Explore ways to streamline communication about how to file a complaint, such as by providing an aggregated list of resources
- Increase its professional development trainings on maintaining respectful communication.
- Evaluate and improve efforts to recruit and retain individuals who contribute to the diversity of the community.
- Prioritize community and campus engagement through open forum discussions and other venues to promote open dialogue and understanding

## Ch. 3 Overview

**Chapter 3** discusses the high quality of the learning experience at Stony Brook, including the University's highly effective faculty, deliberate design and delivery of curriculum, an improved general education experience, and world-class graduate education that fosters research and scholarship.



## Ch. 3 Recommendations

- Develop a central hub for academic information, such as policies, committee processes, faculty review, and academic bulletins
- Prioritize efforts to improve student-to-faculty ratios with particular focus on adding tenure-track faculty
- Recruit university leaders, faculty and staff that reflect the diversity of the student population
- Examine the purpose and impact of general education to ensure the SBC remains forward-looking and addresses SUNY requirements



**STANDARD III:  
DESIGN AND DELIVERY OF THE  
STUDENT LEARNING EXPERIENCE**

## Ch. 4 Overview

**Chapter 4** discusses how the University supports the student experience and raised the graduation rate by 18 percentage points over the past decade through a focus on student success. The chapter also discusses the importance and impact of co-curricular aspects of the student experience.



STANDARD IV:  
**SUPPORT OF THE STUDENT  
EXPERIENCE**

## Ch. 4 Recommendations



**STANDARD IV:  
SUPPORT OF THE STUDENT  
EXPERIENCE**

- Ensure recommendations of the restructured Student Success Team launched in 2023-24 receive full support
- Enable students in international and domestic exchange programs to use the Transfer Equivalency Database
- Examine the organization and structure of undergraduate advising including general advising, special programs, and advising in the major and make recommendations that are focused on the student
- Add advisors as enrollment grows to maintain and improve the ratio of advisors to students
- Examine 1<sup>st</sup>-year seminar curriculum for relevance and effectiveness; ensure SBU 101 instructor compensation is fair and promotes delivery of high-quality instruction

## Ch. 5 Overview

**Chapter 5** discusses the development and reinforcement of academic assessment, including a new Office of Educational Effectiveness (OEE) to evaluate how well students accomplish outcomes established by the faculty as well as how that information is used to make improvements.



**STANDARD V:  
EDUCATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS  
ASSESSMENT**

## Ch. 5 Recommendations

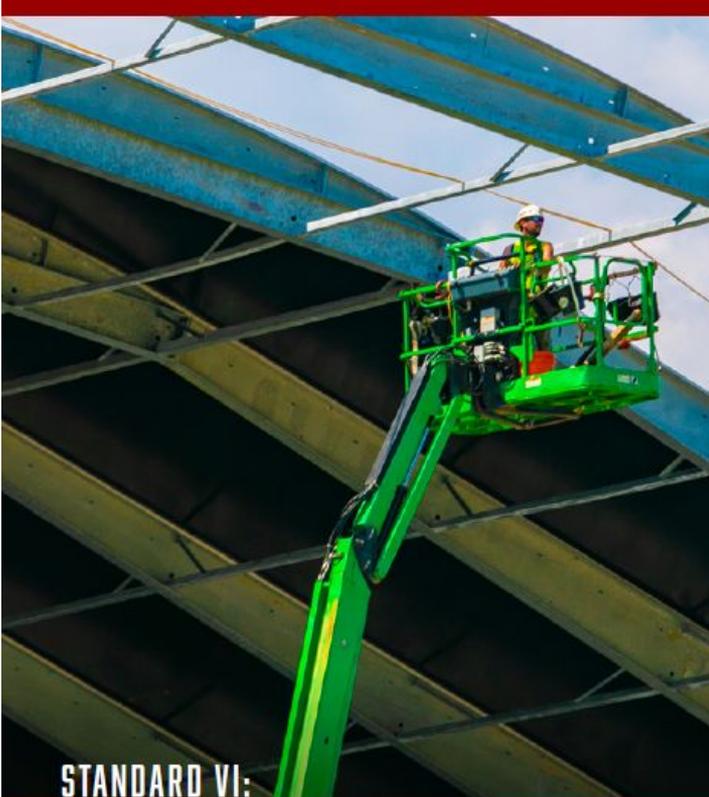
- Continue to improve communication about recognition, training, and professional development for assessment
- Continue to formalize the role of Assessment Coordinators as facilitators of the program level assessment processes and liaisons with OEE and the Assessment Council.
- Expand provision of feedback to assessment coordinators for programmatic assessment and collaborate with the GEAC and the Assessment Council to evaluate general education assessment practices.
- Highlight how the results of student learning outcomes assessment can support resource allocation through the University's planning and budgeting process.



**STANDARD V:  
EDUCATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS  
ASSESSMENT**

## Ch. 6 Overview

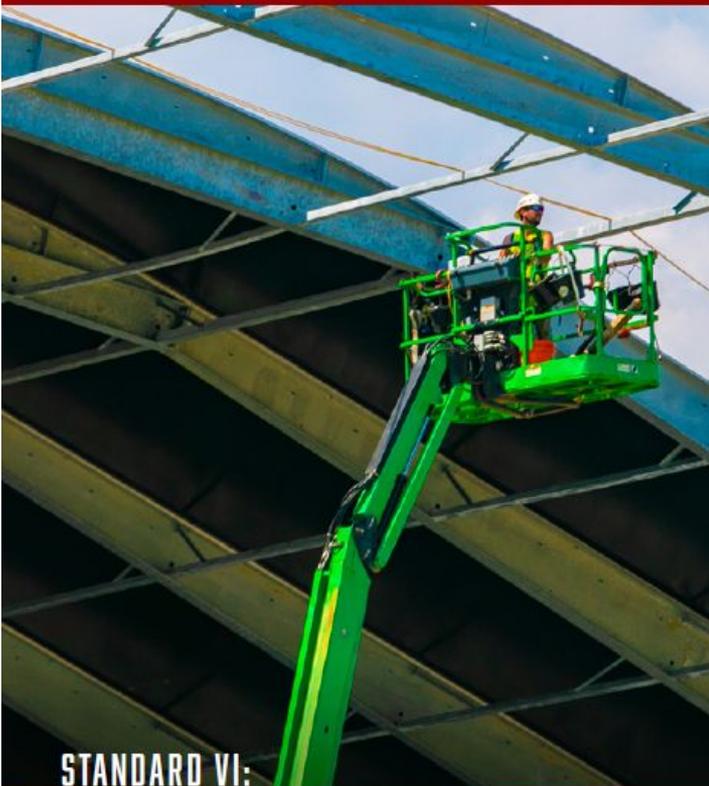
**Chapter 6** discusses planning and resource allocation processes including capital and facilities planning, financial budgeting and improvement processes, and resources supporting operations.



STANDARD VI:  
**PLANNING, RESOURCES AND  
INSTITUTIONAL IMPROVEMENT**

## Ch. 6 Recommendations

- Hire more staff and more tenured and tenure track faculty to achieve ratios with students that reflect the public AAU median.
- Ensure compensation is commensurate with value added and cost of living on Long Island
- Develop a budget model that is more predictable and aligned with the goals of the new strategic plan
- Complete a new facilities master plan that pursues flexibility in the use of capital funds using a repair by replace strategy
- Promote transparency by conducting its own external audit rather than relying on the external audit of the SUNY system



**STANDARD VI:  
PLANNING, RESOURCES AND  
INSTITUTIONAL IMPROVEMENT**

## Ch. 7 Overview

**Chapter 7** discusses governance and administration, including the University's various governing and decision-making structures, policies, and leadership.



**STANDARD VII:  
GOVERNANCE, LEADERSHIP AND  
ADMINISTRATION**

# Ch. 7 Recommendations

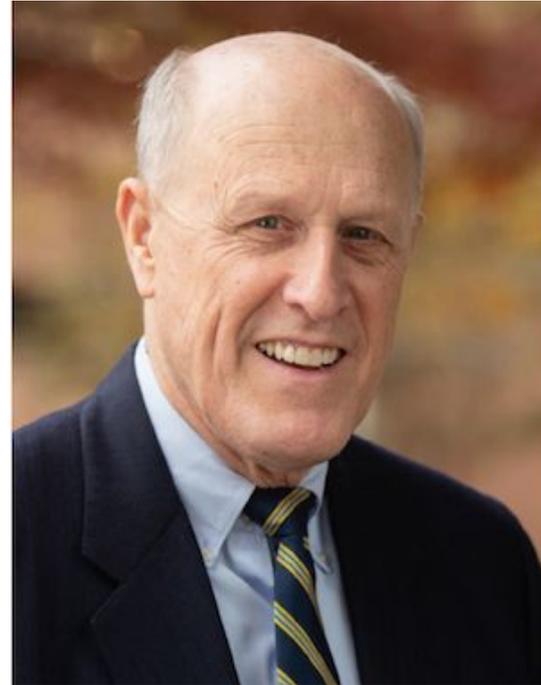


## STANDARD VII: GOVERNANCE, LEADERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION

- Work with the SUNY system and the State of New York to identify flexibility in policies and regulations that are appropriate to allow Stony Brook to thrive as a flagship.
- Collaboratively establish policies and processes for equitable Chair reviews across colleges
- Support the COACHE faculty work group and heed recommendations from that group about how to improve effective governance
- Reimagine our role as a leader in the SUNY system in the context of our designation as a flagship

# Update: Site Visit Team

- Chair: Bruce Jarrell, MD, FACS, President of University of Maryland, Baltimore
- Preliminary visit scheduled 11/29-11/30
  - Review draft Self-Study Report
  - Meets with executive leadership, SC leadership, members of WGs



# The Months Ahead

## October 2023

Draft distributed to campus community for feedback

## November 2023

Preliminary visit to campus by Chair

## December 2023

Finalize draft

## January 2024

Finalize and upload evidence

## February 2024

Visit preparations

## March 2024

Visit preparations

## April 2024

\*\*\* 7-10 site visit \*\*\*

## May 2024

Institutional response (if needed)

## June 2024

Commission decision