



UCB Steering Committee for Reaccreditation

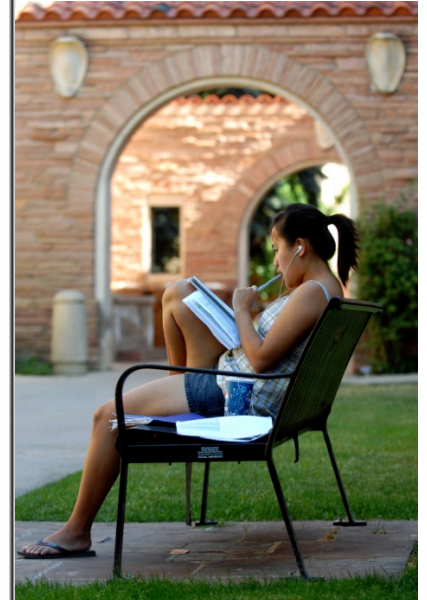
January 21, 2009

Colorado
University of Colorado at Boulder

Today We Will Discuss



- Accreditation and the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association (NCA)
- The criteria and process for accreditation
- The UCB Self Study process to date
- The role of the UCB Steering Committee



Accreditation is About...



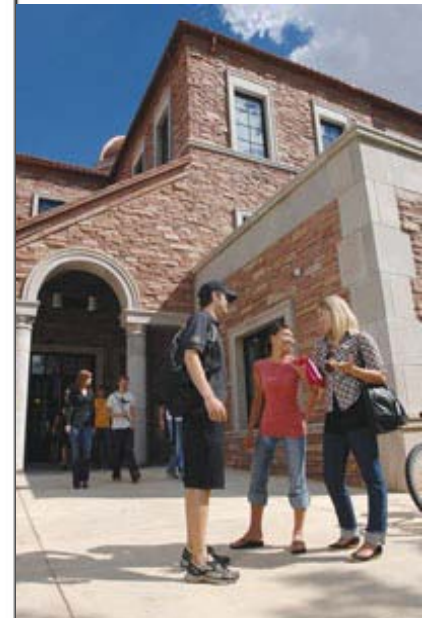
- Verifying that institutions meet standards established by their peers
- Promoting institutional self knowledge and advancement
- Providing assurances to the public about quality
- Building and maintaining confidence in higher education



Two Types of Educational Accreditation



- Institutional – provided by regional and national associations
- Specialized – evaluating particular units, schools or programs within an institution
 - Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET)
 - American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB)
 - American Bar Association (ABA) and the American Association of Law Schools (AALS)



The University of Colorado at Boulder



- First accredited in 1913
- Ten-year cycle for reaccreditation
- Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association (www.ncahlc.org)
- Scheduled for reaccreditation in 2010



The North Central Association is...



- A membership organization of colleges and schools in 19 states
- With two independent corporations
 1. The Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement which accredits K-12
 2. The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) which accredits degree granting organizations of higher education
- Mission of the HLC:
“Serving the common good by assuring and advancing the quality of higher education”



Fundamental Shifts at the Higher Learning Commission

Inputs → Outcomes

Teaching → Learning

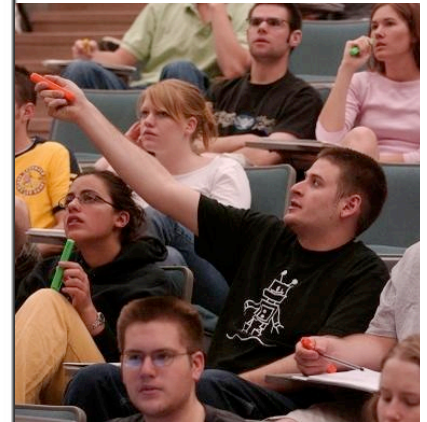
Focus on Past → Focus on Future

Autonomy → Connectedness



Criteria for Accreditation

1. Mission and Integrity
2. Preparing for the Future
3. Student Learning and Effective Teaching
4. Acquisition, Discovery, Application of Knowledge
5. Engagement and Service



Criteria Characteristics

- Focus on student learning, assessment, improvement
- Require holistic thinking and judgment vs. compliance
- Require evaluative analysis
- Require evidence and action
- Each criterion is composed of 4 or 5 core components



All Criteria...

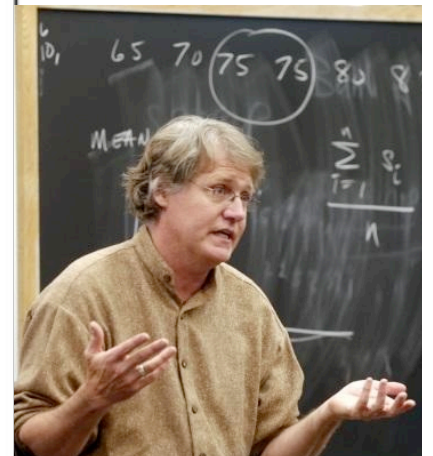
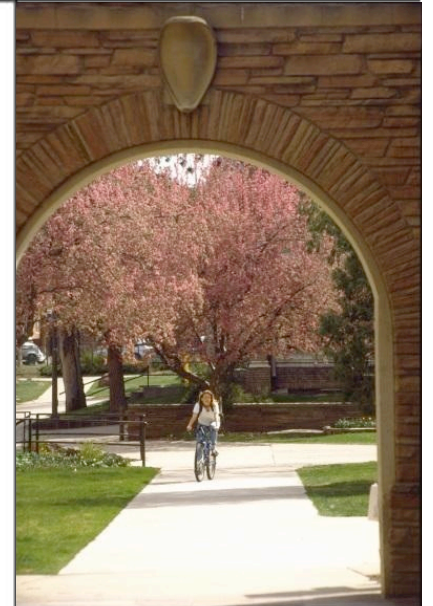
- Interconnected and tied to institution's mission
- Focus on learning
- Encourage forward thinking about outcomes
- Solicit evaluative and conversational engagement
- Have organized, thematic implications
- Future-oriented, learning focused, distinctive



The Process

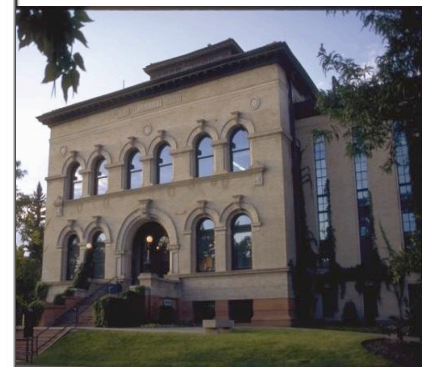
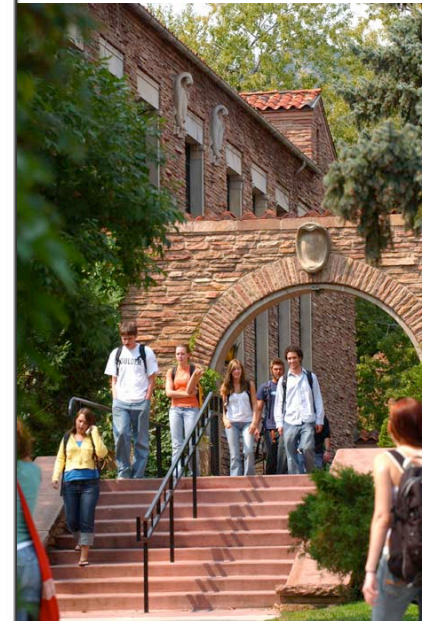


- Prepare a Self Study report of programs, policies and practices
- Submit the Self Study report and supplemental materials to the HLC/NCA
- Prepare the campus for the NCA Site Team visit
- Host the NCA Site Team visit
- Review the draft report of the Site Team ("Error of Fact" review)
- Receive the final report and recommendation from the HLC/NCA



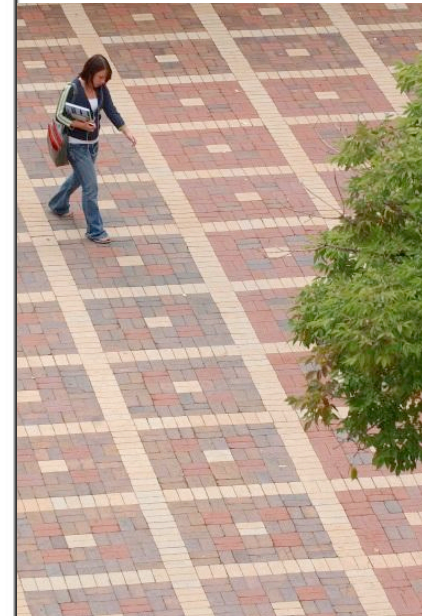
The Self Study

- Builds on existing processes and assessment practices
- Allows for honest campus introspection
- Evaluates, with evidence, where the institution has been, where it is, and where it expects to be in the future



The Site Team's Visit Itself

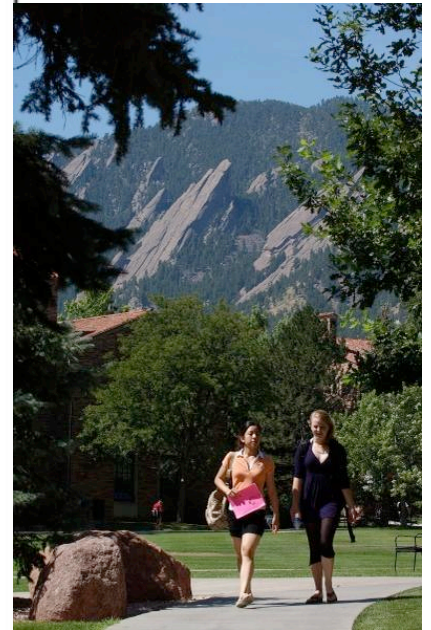
- 2 ½ days (Monday thru mid-Wednesday)
(Our dates are February 22-24, 2010)
- Teams comprised of 15-18 members
from peer institutions
- Agenda is determined by the Site Team
Chair in concert with the institution
- Team members interview, look for
evidence, cross-reference, triangulate,
ask questions, and begin formulating the
team report
- Wrap up with an exit interview/discussion
with the Chancellor



UCB Self Study Process to Date

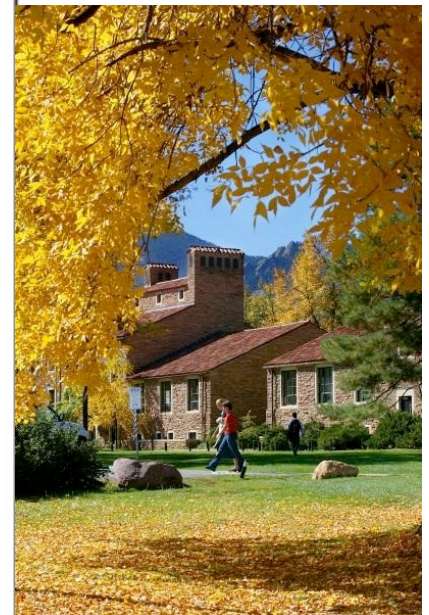
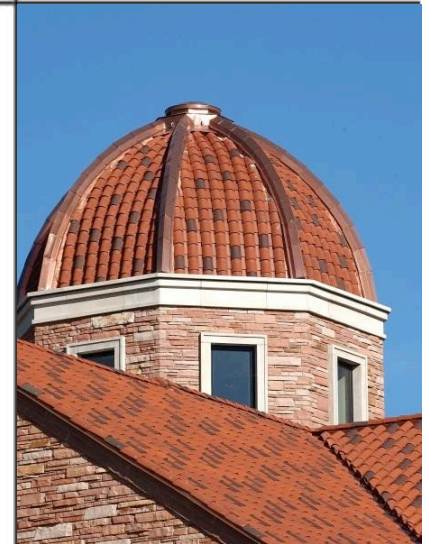


- A Self Study Planning Board was formed in June 2008 to provide overall direction
- The Planning Board includes:
 - Provost Phil DiStefano, Co-Chair for Reaccreditation
 - Senior Vice Chancellor Ric Porreca, Co-Chair
 - Lou McClelland, Director of Institutional Analysis
 - Pauline Hale, Principal Writer
 - Joey White, Project Coordinator



Process to Date

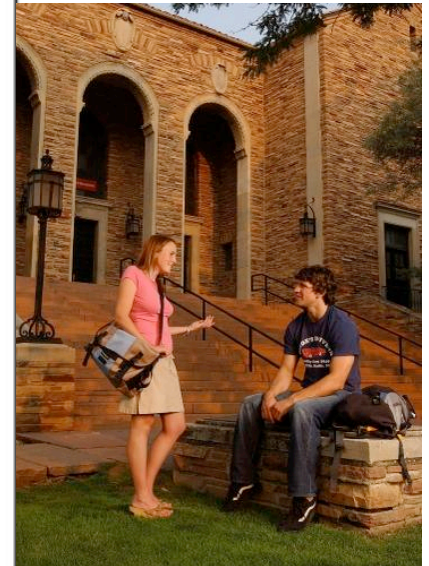
- Identified subject-matter experts to help with the process
 - Dean Anne Heinz - engagement and service
 - AVC Steve McNally - budget and finance
 - AVC Michael Grant - assessment of student learning outcomes
 - AVC Michael Warden - communications, official website, virtual resource room
- Established an official website for accreditation at www.colorado.edu/accreditation
- Met with NCA staff liaison Andrew Lootens-White
- Requested specific characteristics of the Site Team members
- Began drafting the UCB Self Study



Establishing a UCB Steering Committee Appointed by the Chancellor



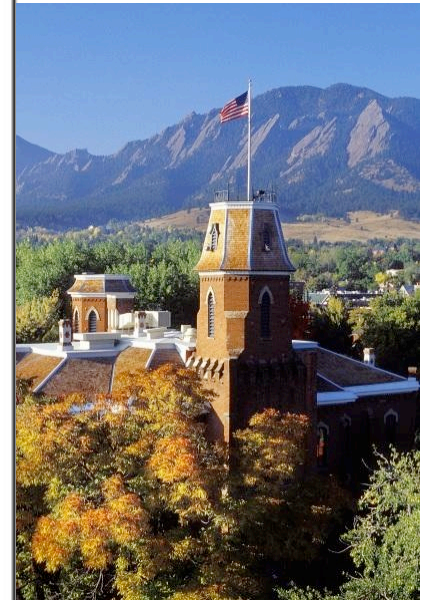
- 70+ members including campus faculty, staff, students and administrators
- What do we want you to do?
 - Provide information
 - Read and critique the Self Study
 - Help educate the campus community
 - Participate in the NCA Site Team visit



Next Steps for the Steering Committee



- Read the first draft of the UCB Self Study posted on the website
- Working title is “University of Colorado at Boulder: Shaping the New Flagship”
- Builds on the *Flagship 2030* strategic plan
- Organized according to the HLC/NCA criteria



Outline of the First Draft

- Chapter I: offers a brief history of CU-Boulder, a snapshot of the university today, and a summary of the key development over the past ten years
- Chapter II: describes the progress made in response to the concerns and suggestions in the 2000 NCA report
- Chapter III: provides an overview of Flagship 2030 – Vision, Core and Flagship Initiatives
- Chapter IV: offers evidence of meeting NCA Criteria 1 “Mission and Integrity” and Criteria 2 “Preparing for the Future”



Outline of First Draft - continued

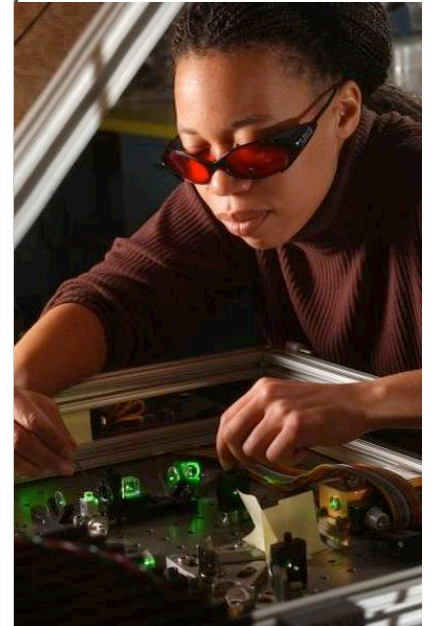
- Chapter V: provides evidence for NCA Criteria 3 “Student Learning and Effective Teaching”
- Chapter VI: provides evidence for NCA Criteria 4 “Acquisition, Discovery, Application of Knowledge”
- Chapter VII: provides evidence for NCA Criteria 5 “Engagement and Service”
- Chapter VIII: conclusion
- Appendices will follow



Each Chapter Addressing NCA Criteria Concludes with Discussion of...



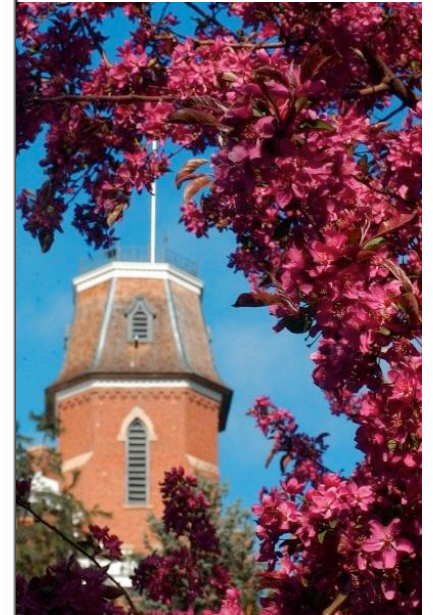
- Key Strengths
- Major Challenges
- Next Steps
- Questions (for the evaluation team)



Instructions



- The first draft of the UCB Self Study will be posted on a password-protected website linked to www.colorado.edu/accreditation on February 1, 2009
- Joey will provide you with the password
- The draft of the Self Study will be posted as a PDF
- Please read, critique and provide feedback to Joey via email at Mary.White@colorado.edu
- Comments and suggestions are welcome



Goal: Complete Self Study by May 2009



- When reading the Self Study draft
 - Look for inaccuracies, omissions and other errors
 - If you recommend adding information, please provide a reference document or web link
- Tentative Timeline
 - February 1 - Post 1st draft
 - March 1 - Synthesize all comments and edits
 - April 1 - Post 2nd draft
 - April 20 - Synthesize all comments
 - May 20 - Post final draft
- Thanks for your help!

