



Monthly Update



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In October, the Steering Committee and Working Groups strived toward the mid-semester goal of writing 60% of the preliminary draft. Steering Committee members collaborated with Working Groups to assist in meeting this objective. ALO and VP Larissa Verta reinforced that Steering Committee and Working Group members should prioritize Middle States meetings and assignments in order to finish the preliminary draft by December 5.

At their most recent meeting, the Steering Committee discussed finding documentation to show how the college's goals have adapted to changing enrollments over the past 4-5 years. VP Verta launched a small team to assess different third-party servicers that students access through the college. Betsy Swope pitched a general plan for winter break, when the Steering Committee will organize the narratives for each standard and manage the Evidence Inventory.

Throughout the month of November, Steering Committee members will be meeting with students and campus clubs. The goal of this outreach is to gather student perspectives on college operations and to discuss progress on each of the MSCHE Standards. This engagement will ensure the student voice is integrated into the final report.

Finally, tri-chairs Jennifer Myskowski, Betsy Swope, and Melanie Turrano will be attending the Middle States Conference on December 10.

Questions should be directed to MSCHE@lccc.edu.



Working Group chairs and team members have officially started meeting this month, signaling the full launch of amassing items for the Evidence Inventory and drafting the Self-Study Report. This focused effort is already showing results, with up to 30 percent of the writing already complete across the standards.

To accommodate and update the current needs of the Working Groups, the Steering Committee revised reporting templates, reviewed each standard, and provided the Working Groups with feedback. A FAQ doc, written by Steering Committee tri-chairs, will guide the Working Groups in writing their narratives. The Steering Committee discussed at length and emphasized the importance of maintaining a clear and consistent community voice in the Self-Study Report.

Communication co-chairs Fatima Alba and Anney Ryan will be meeting with students and campus clubs. The goal of this outreach is to gather students' perspectives on college operations and to create opportunities for discussing progress on each of the MSCHE Standards. This engagement will ensure the student voice is integrated into the final report.

Jennifer Myskowski, Betsy Swope, and Melanie Turrano presented updates to the Board of Trustees on October 9, 2025, marking an important milestone for the project. The due date for the preliminary draft is December 5.

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Overview: On April 22, 2025, MSCHE Vice President Ryan Hartnett visited LCCC, and his visit helped kick off the summer agenda for the MSCHE Steering Committee and Working Groups. During VP Hartnett's visit, he provided notes for the draft of the Self-Study Design, which tri-chairs Betsy Swope, Jennifer Myskowski, and Melanie Turrano utilized in revising the SSD. The SSD was revised and submitted at the beginning of June. On June 24, the SSD was approved by VP Hartnett. Chairs and team members started the summer with a sharpened perspective toward amassing evidence for the Evidence Inventory and completing the preliminary draft.

In June, the Steering Committee and Working Group Chairs created a three-stage timeline for working groups to complete their reports, and for the Steering Committee to review and give feedback on those reports, during the Fall 2025 semester. Chairs and team members decided that these reports should be completed by November 2025, so a preliminary draft can be due to chairs Jennifer Myskowski and Melanie Turrano by December 5, 2025.

In July, Betsy Swope introduced an Evidence Inventory Completion Grid, which she developed to summarize progress across the standards. Betsy also explained that IR would be conducting multiple data passes during the summer. Chairs and team members discussed maintaining currency while reporting on topics in transition at the college - like the changing of the JEDI Center to the HOPE Center, or the shifting of athletics to intramural. Communications Chair Anney Ryan presented a MSCHE glossary for the MSCHE page on the LCCC website, and the glossary was reviewed by the Steering Committee and published in late July.

In August, the Steering Committee and Working Groups reviewed each standard's evidence inventory notes, updated team membership, and planned the Steering Committee and Working Group convocation meeting. At the virtual convocation meeting, the Steering Committee and Working Groups shared their progress on the Evidence Inventory. Each working group met in breakout rooms to review their standard's criteria and team roles. The tri-chairs visited the breakout rooms to answer questions and facilitate solutions where necessary. Each team reported out at the end of the meeting, sharing updates on their standard criteria, inquiry plans, evidence inventory notes, monthly reporting template, and preliminary draft template. The Fall 2025 semester began with chairs and team members working cooperatively on the shared goal of completing the preliminary draft by December.

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