

The NJIT Accreditation Process: Launching the Middle States Commission on Higher Education Self Study

Presentation to Committee on Academic Affairs
September 16, 2009

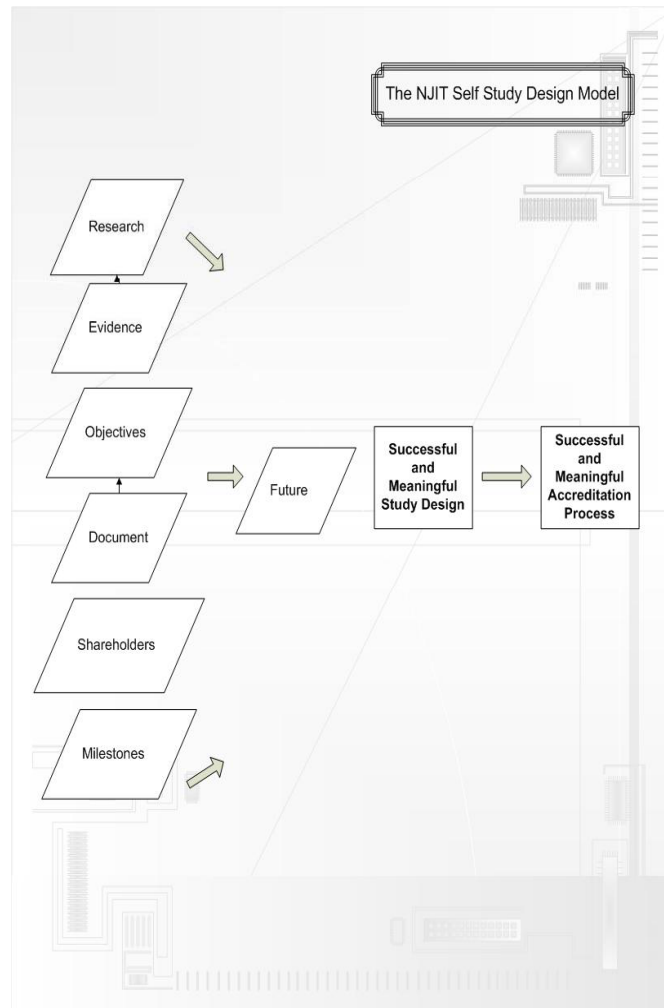
Norbert Elliot, Stephen J. Tricamo, Eugene P. Deess

University Strategic Plan & MSCHE: Resonance

The screenshot shows the NJIT website's navigation bar with links for ABOUT, ADMISSIONS, ACADEMICS, STUDENT LIFE, RESEARCH, CONTINUING ED, CAREER SERVICES, ATHLETICS, NEWS, and GIVING. Below the navigation bar is a banner for the Office of the President featuring a portrait of the president. The main content area is titled "Strategic Plan 2010-2015" and includes a list of dates and descriptions of strategic plan presentations and updates. A sidebar on the left contains navigation links for About, Presidential News, Annual Reports, and University Planning. A "RELATED LINKS" section on the right points to the Strategic Plan 2004-2010.

The screenshot shows the NJIT website's navigation bar. The main content area is titled "Middle States Accreditation" and includes a brief description of the accreditation process. A "The Latest News" section lists several dates and descriptions of accreditation-related events and documents. A sidebar on the right provides information about the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) and its mission. The navigation bar includes links for ABOUT, ADMISSIONS, ACADEMICS, STUDENT LIFE, RESEARCH, CONTINUING ED, CAREER SERVICES, ATHLETICS, NEWS, and GIVING.

The NJIT Self Study Design Model

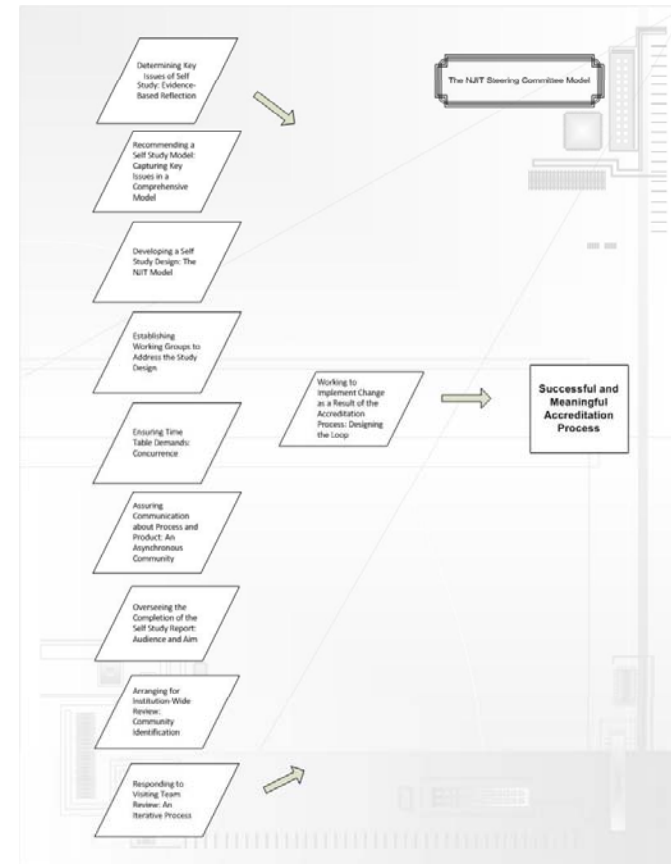


The NJIT Self Study Design Model

- Research-based
 - What questions will each of the 7 working groups pose and answer to address the Commission's 14 accreditation standards ?
- Evidenced-based
 - What are the existing and needed documents and studies that must be produced for accreditation?
- Objectives-based
 - Will the orientation of our major objectives be reflective, documentary, or progressive?
- Document-based
 - What will the chapters of the study design and final report look like?
- Shareholder-based
 - Who are the audiences for our work?
- Milestone-based
 - What timelines will ensure a robust meeting, drafting, reviewing, and finalizing of the final report?
- Future-oriented
 - What will be the impact of our design and report when the present accreditation cycle is completed?

Rapid Assessment and Steering Committee

- Robert Barat
- Edward Bishof
- Joel Bloom
- Fadi P. Deek
- Eugene P. Deess
- Tony Howell
- Marguerite Schneider
- Richard Sweeney
- Steve Tricamo



The Seven Working Groups

- **Group 1: The NJIT Mission: Commitment to the Pursuit of Excellence**
- Standard 1: Mission and Goals
 - Chair: Nancy Coppola
 - Vice Chair: Sanchoy K. Das
 - Advisor: Joel Bloom
 - Advisor: Fadi P. Deek
- **Group 2: The NJIT Strategic Planning: The Resource Allocation Process**
- Standard 2: Planning, Resource Allocation, and Institutional Renewal
- Standard 3: Institutional Resources
 - Chair: Gabrielle Esperdy
 - Vice Chair: Nancy Jackson
 - Budget Advisor: Edward Bishof
 - Risk Management Advisor: Nicholas P Tworischuk
- **Group 3: The NJIT Leadership Process: Institutional Constituencies and the Assurance of Integrity**
- Standard 4: Leadership and Governance
- Standard 5: Administration
- Standard 6: Integrity
 - Chair: Dale Gary
 - Leadership and Governance Advisor: Sunil Saigal
 - Quality Improvement and Institutional Constituency Advisor: Richard Sweeney
- **Group 4: Educational Outcomes: The Measurement of Learning Ability**
- Standard 7: Institutional Assessment
- Standard 14: Assessment of Student Learning
 - Chair: John K. Bechtold
 - Vice Chair: Katia Passerini
 - Institutional Research Advisor: Eugene P. Deess

The Seven Working Groups

- **Group 5: Admission and Retention: Designing the Student-Centered Campus**
- Standard 8: Student Admission and Retention
- Standard 9: Student Support Services
 - Chair: Sui-Hoi (Edwin) Hou
 - Vice Chair: Barry Cohen
 - Advisor: Tony Howell
- **Group 6: Faculty: A Tradition of Instruction, Research, and Service**
- Standard 10: Faculty
 - Chair: Robert Barat
 - Vice Chair: David Mendonça
 - Advisor: Marguerite Schneider
- **Group 7: Curriculum: Evidence-centered, Research and Professional-based Instruction**
- Standard 11: Educational Offerings
- Standard 12: General Education
- Standard 13: Related Educational Activities
 - Chair: Robert Friedman
 - Vice Chair: Taha F. Marhaba
 - Curriculum Advisor: Stephen J. Tricamo
 - eLearning Advisor: Gale T. Spak

At the Present Time: The NJIT Self-Study Research Question Design

Designing **Analytic Charge Questions** (process adapted from *Self Study: Creating A Useful Process*, p. 34)

MSCHE Standard	Identify the key components of the standard that are most relevant to the institution's own goals and activities	Determine how this standard relates to other standards and the Seven NJIT Groups.	What assessment has occurred in this area?	What improvements should we consider?	Analytic Charge Questions for the Seven NJIT Groups	What existing documents can be used (and cited) to fulfill this Charge?	What new research, if any, should be undertaken during the self-study?
1. Mission and Goals							
2. Planning, Resource Allocation, and Institutional Renewal							
3. Institutional Resources							
4. Standard 4: Leadership and Governance							
5. Administration							
6. Integrity							
7. Institutional Assessment							
8. Student Admissions and Retention							
9. Student Support Services							
10. Faculty							
11. Educational Offerings							
12. General Education							
13. Related Educational Activities							
14. Assessment of Student Learning							

Time Line: Fall 2009-Spring 2010

- Summer 2009
 - MSCHE reminds institution of the pending evaluation and invites it to the The Self-Study Institute.
- Fall 2009
 - Self-Study Institute held to orient institutions beginning self-study.
 - Steering Committee Chair(s) and members chosen.
 - MSCHE staff liaison schedules self-study preparation visit to the institution.
- Spring 2010
 - Institution chooses its self-study model.
 - Institution determines types of working groups that will be needed.
 - Draft self-study Design finalized, including charge questions for working groups.
 - MSCHE staff liaison conducts self-study preparation visit.
 - Staff liaison approves institution's self-study design.

Time Line: Fall 2010-Spring 2011

- Fall 2010
 - Steering Committee oversees research and reporting by working groups.
 - Working groups involve community.
 - Working groups submit reports.
 - MSCHE selects the evaluation team Chair, and the institution approves the selection.
 - Chair and institution select dates for team visit and for the Chair's preliminary visit.
 - Institution sends a copy of the self-study design to the team Chair.
- Spring 2011
 - MSCHE selects evaluation team members, and the institution approves the selection.
 - Steering Committee receives drafts text from working groups and develops a draft self-study report.

Time Line: Fall 2011-Spring 2012

- Fall 2011
 - Campus community reviews draft self-study report.
 - Evaluation team Chair reviews draft self-study report.
 - Institution's governing board reviews draft self-study report.
 - Institution sends draft self-study report to evaluation team Chair, prior to Chair's preliminary visit.
 - Team Chair makes preliminary visit at least four months prior to team visit.
 - Institution prepares final version of the self-study report.
- Spring 2012
 - Institution sends final report to evaluation team and to MSCHE at least six weeks prior to team visit.
 - Team visit
 - Team report
 - Institutional response
- Summer-Fall 2012
 - Committee on Evaluation Reports meets
 - Commission action

The Process: Institution-Wide Review, Community Identification, and Planning for A Common Future

The screenshot displays the NJIT website homepage. At the top, the NJIT logo is accompanied by the text "New Jersey's Science & Technology University". A navigation bar includes links for "My NJIT", "CALENDAR", "DIRECTORY", "A-Z LINKS", and "CONTACT US", along with a search box. Below this is a secondary menu with categories like "ABOUT", "ADMISSIONS", "ACADEMICS", "STUDENT LIFE", "RESEARCH", "CONTINUING ED", "CAREER SERVICES", "ATHLETICS", "NEWS", and "GIVING".

The main content area features a large photo of two students, a woman and a man, with the caption "THE EDGE IN KNOWLEDGE". To the right of the photo is a sidebar with "INFO FOR:" links for "CURRENT STUDENTS", "FACULTY & STAFF", "PARENTS", "COMMUNITY", "ALUMNI", and "CORPORATE PARTNERS". Below the photo is a "NEWS & EVENTS" section with a "MORE NEWS & EVENTS" link. This section is divided into four columns: "TOP NEWS" (NJIT Ranked 11th in Nation for Graduating African Americans), "RESEARCH NEWS" (NJIT Expert Advises on Building in Hurricane-Prone Areas), "EVENTS" (Aug 13 Graduate Study Open House), and "PODCASTS" (NJIT's Big Bear Solar Observatory on NJN News). To the right of the news section are three promotional boxes: "NJIT STARTS AFFORDABLE GRADUATE ONLINE TUITION THIS SUMMER", "PROVOST SEARCH", and "THE PRINCETON REVIEW 371 BEST COLLEGES". At the bottom right of the news section is a "Scene & Heard" box.