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USFSP Receives Positive Review from Accreditation Site Team

Posted **February 17, 2011** at 2:43 pm by [Melanie Marquez](#)

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ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (Feb. 17, 2011) – USF St. Petersburg is nearing successful completion of the accreditation reaffirmation process with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Commission on Colleges.

The SACS on-site visiting team charged with evaluating USFSP visited the university from Feb. 14 – 17 to review documentation of the university's adherence to 89 accreditation standards and the university's Quality Enhancement Plan, a required element of reaffirmation. Upon departure, the site team leader indicated the committee had one recommendation for the university to respond to before the final reaffirmation decision is made by the Commission on Colleges in December 2011. The recommendation relates to standard 3.5.2, which deals with institutional residency requirements.

"The faculty, staff and students of the University of South Florida St. Petersburg have worked diligently in preparation for this important visit," said Margaret Sullivan, regional chancellor of USFSP. "The committee's positive review is a testament to the quality of this institution."

SACS is the recognized regional accrediting body for educational institutions in the eleven U.S. Southern states. The Commission on Colleges (COC), which accredits colleges and universities, granted USF St. Petersburg its own accreditation in 2006. All accredited institutions undergo a reaffirmation process five years following initial accreditation. Upon successful reaffirmation in December, USFSP will continue regular reporting to the COC. The next reaffirmation visit is in 2021.

Accreditation represents the judgment of peers from across the region that an institution has high quality academic programs and support services, is financially stable, and is governed appropriately and with integrity.

The site team offered a positive review of the Quality Enhancement Plan, titled, "The Success Equation: A Model for Enhancing Student Learning in Gateway Mathematics and Statistics Courses." The plan addresses improving student learning in key introductory mathematics courses such as College Algebra, Finite Mathematics and Introductory Statistics. These courses in the Quantitative Methods area of General Education form the foundation for quantitative learning for a variety of degree programs at USFSP.

-USF St. Petersburg-

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