Date: January 15, 2010

To: Middle States Steering Committee

From: Craig M. Wheeland, Ph.D,
Chair

Subject: Update for on Working Group on Education Offerings, General Education, and Related Educational Activities

I highlight below the work completed since September 2009.

First, the working group met for 2 hours on the following days:

October 2
October 30
November 13
December 4

The working group reviewed draft answers, prepared by two-person teams, to our 28 study questions. We discussed each question and member’s offered ideas and information needed to complete the answers and possible sources.

Second, throughout the Fall Semester, the two-person teams did interviews with various university leaders, reviewed web sites, emailed various administrators for information, and reviewed documents available in the on-line “Working Groups Document Library.”

Third, two focus groups of freshmen were completed. We attempted to do a sophomore focus group and senior focus group, but not enough students attended the sessions so the facilitator canceled them in consultation with me. The working group discussed whether we should try to again to do the two focus groups. We unanimously decided we did not need to do focus groups for sophomores and seniors because information could be found from surveys and reports in the on-line “Working Groups Document Library.”

Fourth, the working group’s teams revised answers and are scheduled to submit them to me by January 22. I will organize the answers and create one document. Marylu Hill, Vice Chair our working group, will lead the effort to edit he document in order to reduce repetition and to create a concise presentation.