

Middle States Update
SUNY Cortland Faculty Senate

October 26, 2021



Anatomy Of Middle States Self-Study

An institutional inquiry based on

- Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE)
 - Standards and Criteria for an Effective Institution
- SUNY Cortland Mission, Goals, Objectives

Assignment

- 100 pages, single spaced
- Findings should be backed up by evidence

Prior Feedback from MSCHE

- **2012 Self-Study Recommendations**

1. coordinate the financial plans into a multi-year planning document that will align with its carefully crafted strategic direction
2. Measurable goals, objectives, and student learning outcomes for programs and courses

- **2017 Periodic Review Report Recommendation**

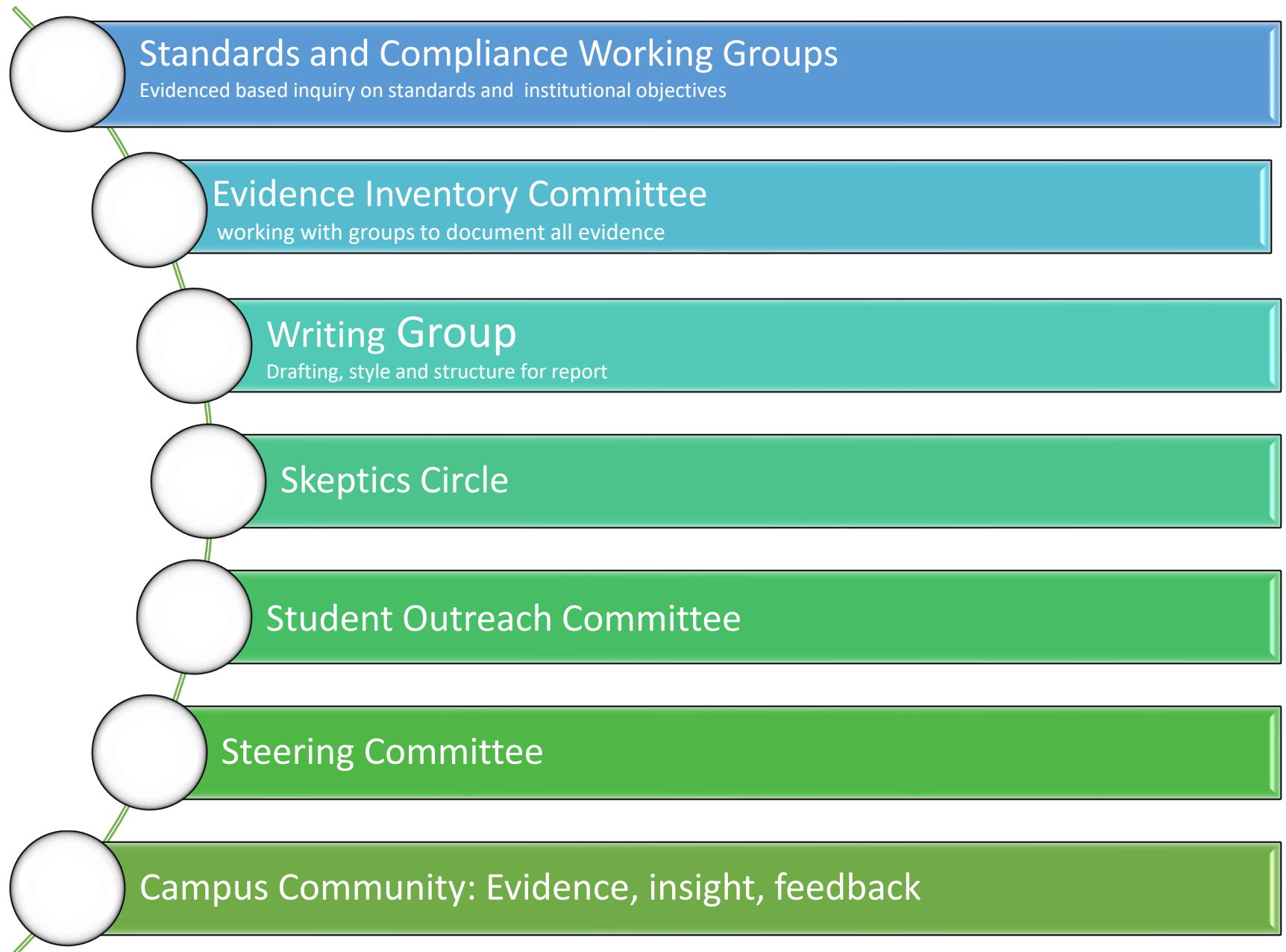
- Need to show fully implementation of plans we have (keep going!) in regard to planning and student learning outcomes

Cortland's Goals for Self-Study

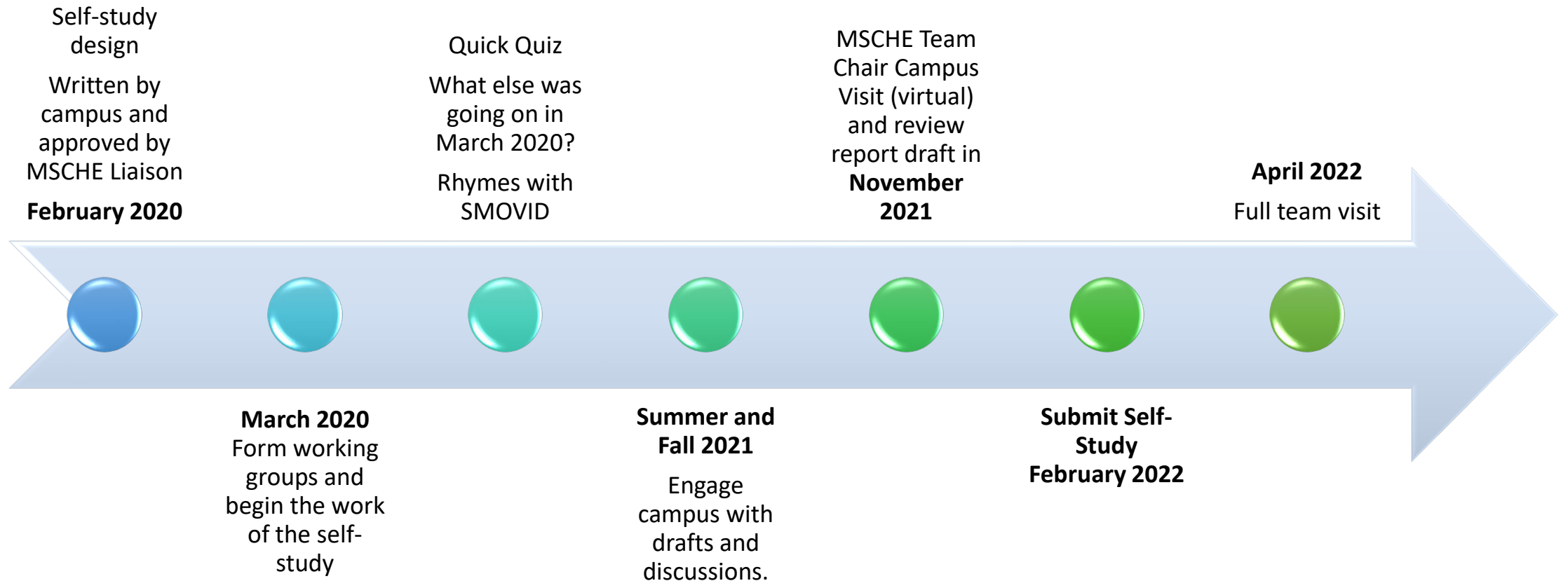
1. Achieve reaccreditation by demonstrating compliance with the Middle States Standards, Requirements of Affiliation, and federal compliance.
2. Acknowledge and celebrate work of campus constituents.
3. Analyze and identify areas of strength and improvement within the strategic plan based on evidence.

See the SUNY Cortland Self-Study Design for full list

Working Groups



Self-Study Process



Preliminary Findings

- Strengths
 - Structure, programs, policies that address the critical areas
 - Focus on students and well-being clear and dimensional (in and out of classroom)
 - Expansion of student learning outcomes assessment
 - Increase use of planning and assessment (e.g., new annual reports) and build connection to finance and budgeting (e.g., new Resource Advisory Council)
- Suggestions
 - Ideas for greater and more frequent communication
 - Formalize more support for assessment (e.g., professional development, data sharing)
- See the draft report for full listing of strengths and suggestions

Campus Perspectives

We will continue to ask for feedback on the self-study including

- Justification for findings
- Suggestions
 - Specific advice we are giving ourselves to move forward in respective areas
 - We have not mandated any recommendations for ourselves
- Evidence (providing additional/stronger)
- Additional comments on the self-study

Feedback

- Current Survey on Chapters is open for anyone to respond:
 - https://sunycortland.formstack.com/forms/middle_states_october_draft_feedback
- New draft will be posted by October 29, 2021 and updated executive summary will be sent out next week
- Upcoming Opportunities for Feedback

Accessing the Self-Study Draft and Providing Feedback

- Available on the Middle States section of the Institutional Effectiveness website
- Questions? Feel free to contact a Middle States Steering Committee Member

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Peter Perkins
Jaclyn Pittsley
Mark Prus

Greg Sharer
Abby Thomas
Carol Van Der Karr, co-chair
Oscar Walters
Nance Wilson

Information

Institutional Effectiveness Online: www.cortland.edu/ie

- Understanding MSCHE or Middle States
 - [Video on SUNY Cortland and Middle States](#)
 - [Middle States Standards for Accreditation and Requirements of Affiliation](#)
- SUNY Cortland Strategic Plan
 - [Video on the SUNY Cortland Strategic Plan](#)
 - [SUNY Cortland Strategic Plan: 2018-2023](#)
 - [Institutional Planning and Assessment Committee Information](#)