STANDARD ONE in the new accreditation process requires that we
- articulate our mission statement
- identify core themes* that manifest essential elements of that mission
- identify an acceptable threshold or extent to which we fulfill our mission
- establish objectives for each core theme
- identify meaningful, assessable, and verifiable indicators of achievement that
  form the basis for evaluating our effectiveness as an institution

*A core theme is a manifestation of a fundamental aspect of institutional mission with an
overarching common purpose that guides planning for program and services,
development of capacity, and application of resources to fulfill that aspect of the mission.

Examples include, but are not limited to Developmental education; workforce
preparation; lower division transfer education; student life; personal enrichment and
continuing education.

Examples of things that could be themes:

1) Access and student success/transition for the underprepared
2) Meeting workforce needs for entry and ongoing training
3) Providing strong, seamless transfer education toward a baccalaureate degree
4) Enriching the whole student and promoting life success through student organizations,
   student services, a robust general education component, co-curricular activities and
   student clubs
5) Enriching the community by providing self-improvement courses as well as accessible
   cultural, civic, and international activities and classes

Example of objectives of core theme:

Our students will benefit from a teaching and learning environment that builds student
success.

Examples of indictors of achievement:
   Course to course retention
   Year to year retention
   Assessment of student learning
   outcomes
   Some key elements of CCSSE
   Degree/certificate completion rates
   Transfer rates
   Etc…….

Advantages to the New Accreditation System:
- Incorporates Institutional Effectiveness activities into ongoing accreditation activities in a natural way
- Enables the college to identify the core work it does and the key indicators that we monitor on a continual basis

We will begin work on identifying core themes and indicators later this year so that we can complete our first report (Standard one only) to NWCCU by Spring 2011.