



DESALES UNIVERSITY

To: DeSales University Campus Community

From: Co-Directors of the DSU Self-Study – Dr. Sarah K. Nytroe (Associate Professor of History) and Ms. Elizabeth Rosa (Fr. Thomas J. Furphy, OSFS, Professor of Business)

Re: DeSales University Self-Study for MSCHE Re-Accreditation

Date: Monday, April 16, 2018

This semester, DeSales University completed a key part of the re-accreditation process to obtain re-accreditation with the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE). The process that began in late 2015 is near completion.

Key developments have occurred in the spring semester and final actions will occur in the early summer:

- **First, the University hosted the Evaluation Team from March 18-21.** From the afternoon of Sunday, March 18th through Tuesday, March 20th, the University hosted the seven-member Evaluation Team led by Dr. Anne Prisco, the President of Felician University. During their visit to campus, the Team had the opportunity to speak with faculty, students, professional and support staff, members of the Board of Trustees, President James Greenfield and Executive Vice President Jerry Joyce. The Team collected additional oral evidence as they completed their evaluation of DeSales. While doing so, they continually praised the commitment of the community to the mission of DeSales and were grateful for the warm welcome they received throughout their visit. Due to weather, the delivery of the oral report was postponed from Wednesday, March 21st and rescheduled for Friday, March 23rd. Dr. Prisco returned to DeSales to meet with President Greenfield and deliver the oral report to conclude the Team Visit.
- **Second, the University will complete two final actions in the re-accreditation process.** To complete the re-accreditation process, DeSales will respond to the Evaluation Team in two ways. First, the University received a draft of the Evaluation Team's Final Report on April 4th and offered suggestions for corrections to factual errors and unclear statements. The Evaluation Team Chair will take these into consideration when finalizing the Team Report for submission to MSCHE. Second, the University will submit an Institutional Response to the Evaluation Team's Final Report, marking the final opportunity for the institution to speak to the conclusions drawn about the self-study. This response will come from President Greenfield and be submitted to MSCHE by Friday, May 4th.
- **Lastly, MSCHE will meet on to determine the University's re-accreditation status.** The final step in the University re-accreditation process is the meeting of the MSCHE to make a re-accreditation decision. To determine the University's re-accreditation status, MSCHE will have the *DeSales University 2016-2018 Self-Study*, documentation referenced and used in the report, the Evaluation Team's Final Report, a Confidential Brief from the Evaluation Team Chair, and the Institutional Response from the University. The Commission will meet in early June to deliberate; MSCHE will inform DeSales University of its re-accreditation decision by the end of June.

The Co-Directors want to extend a warm THANK YOU to the entire campus community for their participation in the Team Visit. Your assistance leading up to and during the Visit is a testament to your commitment to DeSales University!