# HLC Accreditation Visit:

## *Overview and Current Campus Activities*

HLC Executive Team

October 10, 2014

**Creighton**
UNIVERSITY

# Presentational Overview

- Creighton University Accreditation with HLC
  - History
  - Open Pathway
  - Criteria and Requirements
- Process Timeline
- HLC Executive Team
- Campus Participation

Creighton
UNIVERSITY

# Creighton University Accreditation

- Creighton has been accredited by the Higher Learning Commission since 1916
- Last Reaffirmation of Accreditation visit—2006-2007
- Next Reaffirmation visit—2016-2017

Creighton
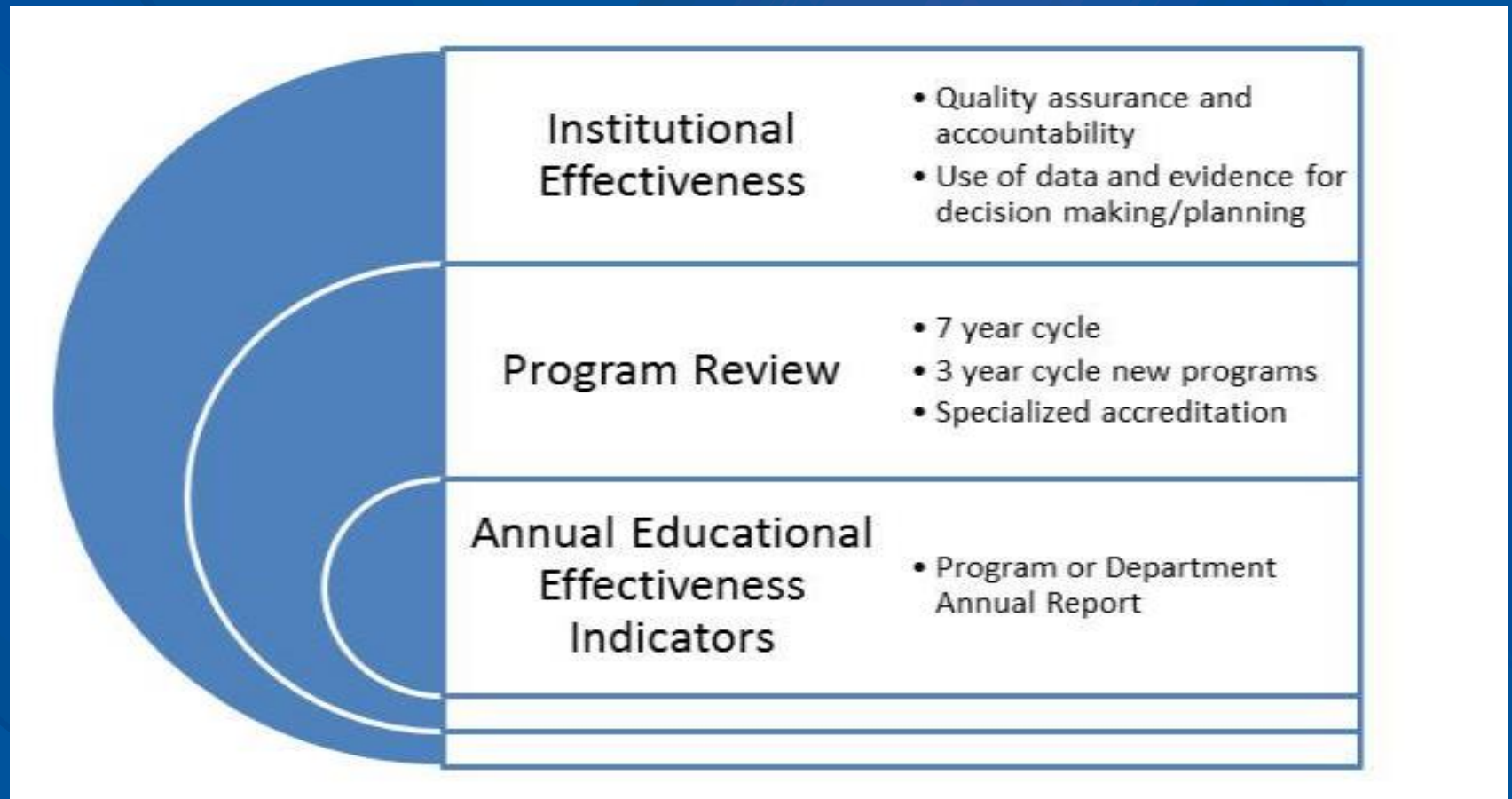UNIVERSITY

# Why Accreditation?

- Assures a high quality educational experience to the public
- Necessary for Federal student financial assistance programs
- Accredited degree programs (grad, professional) require institutional accreditation
- Necessary for transfer of credits

# Creighton Accreditation: On the Open Pathway

Open Pathway 2 components:

- Quality Improvement Project (QIP)
  - QIP proposal approved February 2014
  - Project report August 2016

- Assurance Review

# Quality Initiative

# Quality Initiative Project

- Implementing: Annual academic effectiveness indicators
- Implementing: Institution-wide Program Review process
  - Develop a repository that is university-wide
- Implementing: New Program Approval process as part of institution-wide academic planning


- Links processes for assessment of student learning, evaluation of operations, planning and budgeting (i.e., Core Component 5D: Institutional Effectiveness--currently **one of the most frequently cited deficits across institutions)**

Creighton
UNIVERSITY

# Creighton Accreditation: On the Open Pathway

## Open Pathway 2 components:

- Assurance Argument (formerly the self-study)
  - 35,000 word assurance argument supported by Evidence file (highly structured format) December 2016
- Ongoing reporting requirements
  - Annual (AIDU)
  - Federal Compliance Report

Creighton
UNIVERSITY

# Assurance Argument

## Revised HLC Criteria

1: Mission

2: Ethical and Responsible Conduct

3: Teaching and Learning: Quality,  Resources and Support

4: Teaching and Learning: Evaluation and Improvement

5: Resources, Planning, and Institutional Improvement

For a complete listing of criteria:
http://www.ncahlc.org/Criteria-Eligibility-and-Candidacy/criteria-and-core-components.html

Creighton
UNIVERSITY

# Assurance Argument
## Federal Compliance

- Assignment of Credits, Program Length, and Tuition
- Student Complaints
- Transfer Policies
- Practices for Verification of Student Identity
- Title IV Program Responsibilities
- Required Information for Students and the Public
- Advertising and Recruitment Materials and Other Public Information
- Review of student Outcome Data
- Standing with State and Other Accrediting Agencies
- Public Notification of Opportunity to Comment

For a complete list:
http://www.ncahlc.org/Policies/federal-compliance-program.html

Creighton
UNIVERSITY

# Process Timeline
(major milestones)

**2014**
- HLC Executive Team Formed
- Campus Conversations/Orientations
- Team Meetings

**2015**
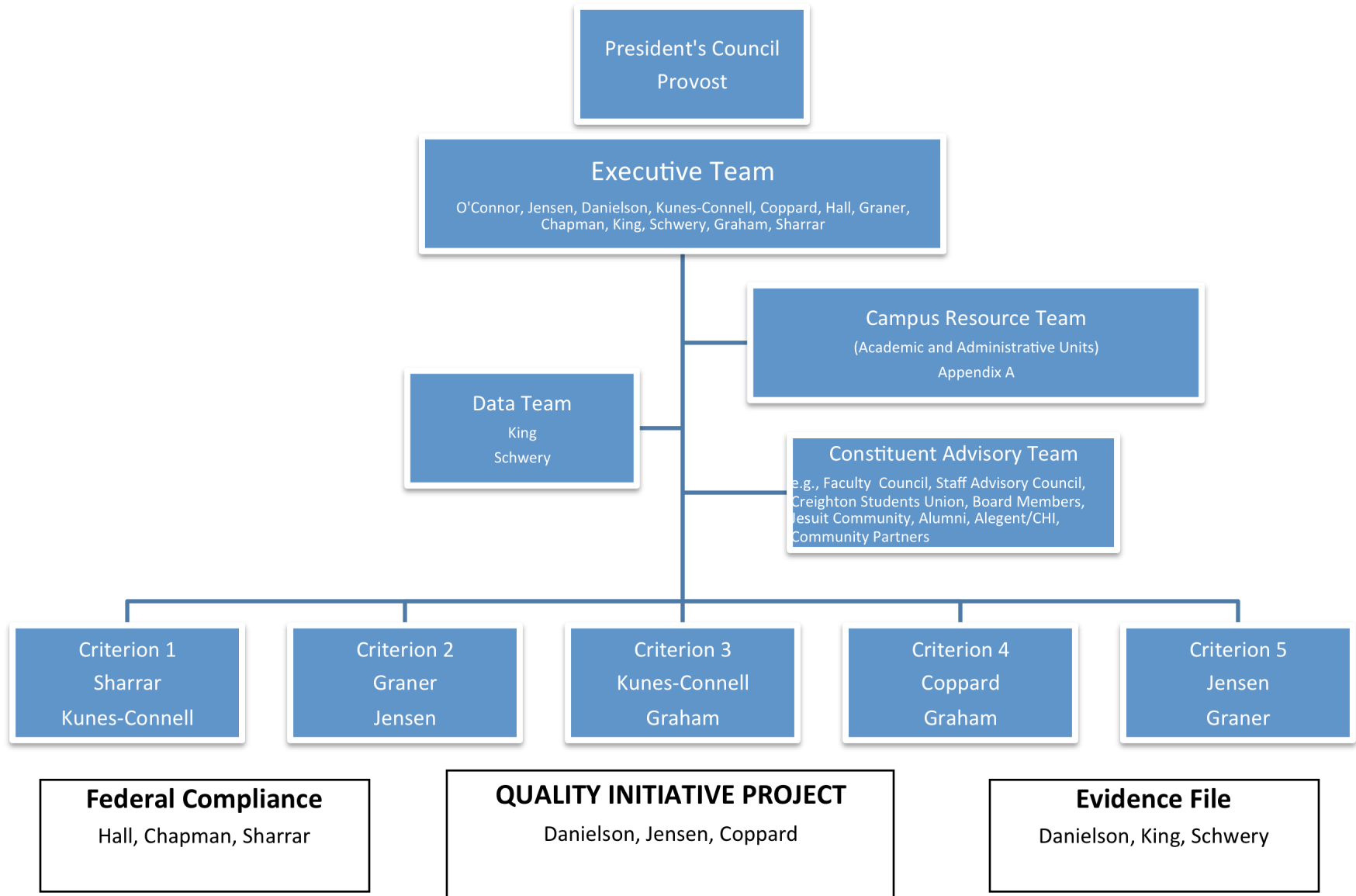- Writing Teams/Rough Draft
- Campus Feedback

**2016**
- August: QIP Report
- December: Submission of Federal Compliance
- December: Submission of Assurance Review

**Spring 2017 Accreditation Site Visit**

Creighton
UNIVERSITY

# Planning Framework for Institutional Accreditation with Higher Learning Commission
# Creighton University

**President's Council**
Provost

**Executive Team**
O'Connor, Jensen, Danielson, Kunes-Connell, Coppard, Hall, Graner, Chapman, King, Schwery, Graham, Sharrar

**Campus Resource Team**
(Academic and Administrative Units)
Appendix A

**Data Team**
King
Schwery

**Constituent Advisory Team**
e.g., Faculty Council, Staff Advisory Council, Creighton Students Union, Board Members, Jesuit Community, Alumni, Alegent/CHI, Community Partners

**Criterion 1**
Sharrar
Kunes-Connell

**Criterion 2**
Graner
Jensen

**Criterion 3**
Kunes-Connell
Graham

**Criterion 4**
Coppard
Graham

**Criterion 5**
Jensen
Graner

**Federal Compliance**
Hall, Chapman, Sharrar

**QUALITY INITIATIVE PROJECT**
Danielson, Jensen, Coppard

**Evidence File**
Danielson, King, Schwery

# HLC Executive Team

- Tasked with overseeing the planning for and the work of the campus in preparing our institutional accreditation documents in preparation for the HLC visit in 2016-2017.

- Members of the Executive Team will serve as Accreditation Report Team (co) chairs and be responsible for drafting the self-study/assurance argument document

# HLC Executive Team Members

Provost Ed O'Connor (chair)
Gail Jensen (co-chair)
Mary Ann Danielson (co-chair)
Tracy Chapman
Mary Kunes-Connell
Brenda Coppard
Kevin Graham
Patricia Hall
Michele King
LuAnn Schwery
Tricia Sharrar

# Campus Involvement

- Preparing for Accreditation is a university-wide activity
- Campus involvement will include
  - HLC Resource Team
  - Fall 2014 informational sessions
  - 2014/2015 listening sessions

Creighton
UNIVERSITY

# How can You be involved?

- Attend a Fall Informational Session
- Attend 2014-2015 "listening sessions" and contribute reflections on and evidence for Assurance Argument (self-study)
- Review drafts of the document (2015-2016)

- Ask questions and stay informed: Contact_Us-HLC@creighton.edu

For additional information: http://www.creighton.edu/accreditation/