

UNIVERSITY of  
NORTHERN COLORADO



*Financial Services*

**M E M O R A N D U M**

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**To:** Becky Barnes, Sharon Clinebell, Beth Franklin, Jennifer Griffin, Bob Hetzel, Sue Kent, Jennifer Rasmuson, Helen Reed, Gardiner Tucker

**From:** Michelle Quinn

**Re:** NCA Accreditation Self-Study Criterion 4 Committee

**Date:** October 21, 2002

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First, I would like to thank you again for agreeing to serve on the Self-Study Committee for **Criterion 4: Acquiring, Creating and Applying Knowledge**.

As you may know, the criteria for accreditation have just recently been revised. For those who are not on the steering committee I would like to highlight Provost's Strathe's perspective shared with us.

The primary purposes of the accreditation process are to 1) Provide an indicator of institutional quality and 2) Be a vehicle for institutional improvement. There are four characteristics of successful self study / accreditation visit processes:

- Wide participation from all campus constituencies
- Honest and open dialogue
- Commitment to the self-study as a positive and helpful process
- University community belief that unqualified accreditation is achievable and warranted

As members of the Learning committee our task is to gather data and draft a chapter of the Self-Study report. We will be meeting every other Tuesday from 1-3 p.m. beginning November 5, 2002, in Carter 1001. As shown on the attached timeline our committee's draft will be reviewed by the Steering Committee in January 2004 and the bulk of our work should be completed in Spring 2003.

Before our meeting on November 5th it would be helpful if you could review the attached definition of Criterion. You may also find it beneficial to create a notebook for this task.

I look forward to working with you on this exciting and challenging project.