

## **Criterion One: Mission and Integrity**

### *Criterion Statement:*

**The organization operates with integrity to ensure the fulfillment of its mission through structures and processes that involve the board, administration, faculty, staff, and students.**

**Core Component - 1A. The organization's mission documents are clear and articulate publicly the organization's commitments.**

### *Examples of Evidence:*

- The board has adopted statements of mission; vision, values, goals, and organizational priorities that together clearly and broadly define the organization's mission.
- The mission, vision, values, and goals documents define the varied internal and external constituencies the organization intends to serve.
- The mission documents include a strong commitment to high academic standards that sustain and advance excellence in higher learning.
- The mission documents state goals for the learning to be achieved by its students.
- The organization regularly evaluates and, when appropriate, revises the mission documents.
- The organization makes the mission documents available to the public, particularly to prospective and enrolled students.
- Other

**Core Component - 1B. In its mission documents, the organization recognizes the diversity of its learners, other constituencies, and the greater society it serves.**

### *Examples of Evidence:*

- In its mission documents, the organization addresses diversity within the community values and common purposes it considers fundamental to its mission.
- The mission documents present the organization's function in a multicultural society.
- The mission documents affirm the organization's commitment to honor the dignity and worth of individuals.

- The organization has required codes of belief or expected behaviors that are congruent with its mission.
- The mission documents provide a basis for the organization's basic strategies to address diversity.
- Other

**Core Component - 1C. Understanding of and support for mission pervade the organization**

*Examples of Evidence:*

- The board, administration, faculty, staff, and students understand and support the organization's mission.
- The organization's strategic decisions are mission-driven.
- The organization's planning and budgeting priorities flow from and support the mission.
- The goals of the administrative and academic sub-units of the organization are congruent with the organization's mission.
- The organization's internal constituencies articulate the mission in a consistent manner.
- Other

**Core Component - 1D. The organization's governance and administrative structures promote effective leadership support collaborative processes that enable the organization to fulfill its mission.**

*Examples of Evidence:*

- Board policies and practices document the board's focus on the organization's mission.
- The board enables the organization's chief administrative personnel to exercise effective leadership.
- The distribution of responsibilities as defined in governance structures, processes, and activities is understood and is implemented through delegated authority.

- People within the governance and administrative structures are committed to the mission and appropriately qualified carry out their defined responsibilities.
- Faculty and other academic leaders share responsibility for the coherence of the curriculum and the integrity of academic processes.
- Effective communication facilitates governance processes and activities.
- The organization evaluates its structures and processes regularly and strengthens them as needed.
- Other

**Core Component - 1E. The organization upholds and protects its integrity.**

*Examples of Evidence:*

- The activities of the organization are congruent with its mission.
- The board exercises its responsibility to the public to ensure that the organization operates legally, responsibly, and with fiscal honesty.
- The organization understands and abides by local, state, and federal laws and regulations applicable to it (or by laws and regulations established by federally-recognized sovereign entities).
- The organization consistently implements clear and fair policies regarding the rights and responsibilities of each of internal constituencies.
- The organization's structures and processes allow it to ensure the integrity of its co-curricular and auxiliary activities.
- The organization deals fairly with its external constituents.
- The organization presents itself accurately and honestly to the public.
- The organization documents timely response to complaints and grievances, particularly those of students.
- Other

**“Mission & Integrity” members**

Tom Barnhart	Lynn Dorn	Colette Erickson
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Link for the Criterion Groups:

<http://www.ndsu.edu/ndsu/accreditation/criteria.shtml>

*Taken from:*

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Restructured Expectations: A Transitional Workbook*

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