University of North Carolina System Assessment and Accreditation Council
Guiding Principles

Adopted on August 10, 2022

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**University of North Carolina System Assessment and Accreditation Council
(UNC System – AAC)**
Adopted on August 10, 2022

Mission
The mission of the University of North Carolina System Assessment and Accreditation Council (AAC) is to foster a culture of excellence in the areas of assessment and accreditation among all UNC constituent institutions. Through training opportunities, intercampus collaborations, and resource publications, the AAC recognizes the value of assessment and the impact of accreditation as continuous improvement tools within the UNC System.

Vision
The AAC seeks to position itself as the leading expert in assessment and accreditation and as a point of reference within the UNC System and at the national level.

Core Values
- **P**romote collegiality and support within and among the system
- **C**are about the well-being of council membership
- **S**erve in an advisory capacity to the UNC System Leadership
- **A**dvocate for best practices in assessment and accreditation
- **O**rganize professional development for membership
- **P**romote assessment and accreditation education
- **C**ollaborate with other UNC System affinity groups and inter/intra-institutional councils, committees, and working groups

Strategic Priorities
- **C**reate a community of assessment and accreditation leaders through the implementation of best practices
- **O**ffer mutual support to institutions through the exchange of ideas and resources
- **F**oster a continuous culture of assessment and accreditation through diverse strategies
- **S**erve in an advisory capacity to the Board of Governors and UNC System

Chapter 1: General Considerations
1. Name and Scope
These are general considerations regarding the appointment of the council and its overarching purpose.

    1.1. The name of the council is the University of North Carolina System Assessment and Accreditation Council also known by its abbreviated name AAC
    1.2. AAC functions as an independent body within the University of North Carolina System or the UNC System
    1.3. AAC supports all University of North Carolina System assessment and accreditation efforts

Chapter 2: Purpose
2. Functions and Charge
AAC is a UNC System affinity group that discusses assessment and accreditation strategies for the voluntary adoption by member institutions and for the improvement of all academic programs and support units offered by UNC System institutions

2.1. Specific Considerations
    2.1.1. AAC supports constituent institutions in the completion of assessment plans and assessment reports to comply with accreditation guidelines
    2.1.2. AAC provides feedback on assessment and accreditation strategies
    2.1.3. AAC facilitates training sessions led by the council leadership, member institutions, or invited presenters
    2.1.4. AAC offers training sessions and workshops in assessment and accreditation
    2.1.5. AAC periodically reviews and advises on all UNC System accreditation-related policies, regulations, and guidelines applicable to all constituent institutions
    2.1.6. AAC has the authority to increase or decrease its membership or to establish ad hoc functional and working groups to accomplish the tasks identified in these guiding principles and any other additional charters

2.2. Roles of the Two Co-Chairs
    2.2.1. AAC co-chairs are responsible for preparing the meeting agenda at least one week in advance of the scheduled meeting
    2.2.2. AAC co-chairs are responsible for the preparation and dissemination of communications related to the AAC
    2.2.3. AAC co-chairs organize at least once per semester meetings, and an annual meeting, in consultation with the UNC System and constituent institutions

Chapter 3: Membership
3. Groups and Composition
Groups are based on the fair representation of all UNC System constituent institutions.

AAC Council Leadership
    3.1. AAC Council Leadership has two co-chairs (one assessment and one accreditation), a secretary, incoming co-chairs, and sub-committee chairs as determined by each year's project
    3.2. AAC also has at least one UNC System liaison and a faculty liaison
    3.3. Co-chairs are appointed for two-academic years
    3.4. Only two members from the same institution can serve on the Council Leadership
    3.5. Any vacancies in leadership are filled with affinity group members
Affinity Group

3.6. The affinity group meets once a month, and it is comprised of one representative or designee from each of the 17 constituent institutions

3.7. Two representatives from a constituent institution may be appointed if assessment and accreditation are housed separately at the institution

3.8. Any subcommittee within the affinity group can include faculty or staff outside of the affinity group with notifications to co-chairs

3.9. Visiting Guests and Speakers (VGS) are invited according to the agenda items

Chapter 4: Changes to these Guiding Principles

4. General Changes

The purpose of this chapter is to highlight the general procedure to implement suggested changes.

4.1. These guiding principles should be revisited and revised as needed by a two-thirds majority of   affinity group members

4.2. The two-thirds majority is represented by 23 affinity group members including Council Leadership members as of the moment of the adoption of these guiding principles