# HLC Fact of the Week

(February 3, 2017)

There are five HLC Criteria for Accreditation that we must address in our Assurance Argument. The criteria are essentially standards by which HLC determines whether an institution merits accreditation or reaffirmation of accreditation. In brief form, these are the criteria:

### **Criterion One. Mission**

The institution's mission is clear and articulated publicly; it guides the institution's operations.

## **Criterion Two. Integrity: Ethical and Responsible Conduct**

The institution acts with integrity; its conduct is ethical and responsible.

## Criterion Three. Teaching and Learning: Quality, Resources, and Support

The institution provides high quality education, wherever and however its offerings are delivered.

## Criterion Four. Teaching and Learning: Evaluation and Improvement

The institution demonstrates responsibility for the quality of its educational programs, learning environments, and support services, and it evaluates their effectiveness for student learning through processes designed to promote continuous improvement.

## Criterion Five. Resources, Planning, and Institutional Effectiveness

The institution's resources, structures, and processes are sufficient to fulfill its mission, improve the quality of its educational offerings, and respond to future challenges and opportunities. The institution plans for the future.

For the complete language associated with each of these criteria, go to the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) section of the Lindenwood website at <a href="http://www.lindenwood.edu/about/higher-learning-commission/criteria-for-accredidtation/">http://www.lindenwood.edu/about/higher-learning-commission/criteria-for-accredidtation/</a>.

To learn more about accreditation and Lindenwood's comprehensive evaluation and site visit scheduled for November 6-7, 2017, and to see the countdown clock to the visit, go to the HLC page on the Lindenwood website here: <u>http://www.lindenwood.edu/about/higher-learning-commission/</u>.

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