

2013 Annual Conference of the Higher Learning commission

April 5-6, 2013

[You can add an abstract or other key statement here. An abstract is typically a short summary of the document content.]

Report on Conference Attended

First, I would like to thank Olive-Harvey College administration for giving me the opportunity to attend the 2013Annual Conference of the Higher Learning Commission. The conference sessions were very rewarding and gave me the opportunity to address many issues and concerns leading to Olive-Harvey College reaffirmation of accreditation. This was a great conference with a variety of resources.

**Objectives for attending the conference:**

* To broaden my knowledge of the Open Pathway process.
* To acquire more information on the ten-year Open Pathway Accreditation Cycle
* To participate in conversations on the Assurance Review process

**Some of the sessions attended:**

* + Open Pathway Track – The Assurance Review (Standard and Open Pathways)
  + The New Criteria for Accreditation
  + Using the Assurance System: Institutional Perspectives (Standard and Open Pathways)
  + Open Pathway – The Quality Initiative: Notes from the Field
  + Sunday morning session with our mentor

**Recommendations/Ideas**

For me the conference set a positive tone of collaborative initiatives for the college to undertake and to continue work on engaging students and ways to consolidate student’s ability to have successful outcomes. Some thought:

* Create a “learning culture using quality initiatives” to bring together faculty members and administrators to continue efforts to determine how to focus resources and energy to improve student learning.
* Open Pathway Quality Initiative to provide for faculty and staff who are new to the process a more adaptable focus and becoming familiar.

**What Does This Mean**

The accreditation process is continuous and the institution is in a good place to follow the events listed below:

* OHC initial reaffirmation under PEAQ was schedule for 2020.
* HLC changed pathways
* OHC selected the Open Pathway in Fall 2012.
* Year 3 of the cycle we may submit documents to “Evidence File.
* The Assurance Review scheduled for year 4 is waived
* Year 5 – 9 submit documents to the “Evidence File.”
* Year 10 – Assurance Filing (Assurance Argument and Evidence File).
* Federal Compliance Requirements
* Assurance Review and Comprehensive Evaluation w/Site Visit