COCA Self-Study and Site Visit: Insights From Our Recent Experiences

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Objectives

- Understand changes in the COCA accreditation standards and assessment process
- Develop ideas and strategies for approaching accreditation at your institution
- Identify tools that may be helpful in evaluating your programs
Disclaimers

• This is a description of methods used by MSUCOM in preparing for its 2018 comprehensive self-assessment and site visit.

• This content is not intended as official guidance from the AOA or the COCA.

• Each institution should consider its own strategies for compliance with accreditation standards and preparing its self-assessment.
BUILDING SUCCESSFUL COLLABORATIONS
The accreditation cycle

• The Standards
• The Self-Assessment
• The Site Visit
• Response and follow-up
• Annual reports
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 2017</td>
<td>Draft revisions made available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2017</td>
<td>COMPass team convened</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 2017</td>
<td>2017 standards take effect</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 2017</td>
<td>Access to Armature system Notification of site visit dates</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 2017</td>
<td>Self-assessment completed</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 2018</td>
<td>Site visit</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 2018</td>
<td>COCA review</td>
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COMPASS

COM Program for Accreditation and Strategic Success
The Standards

- Standards: 12
- Elements: 2-12 per standard
- Core elements: 30 total

“Core Element: An element considered fundamental to the meeting of the standard. COM will be found out of compliance with the standard if the COM fails to meet any core element within that standard.”
The Self-Assessment

- Reflection on standards, evidentiary submissions
- Gap analysis
- Collection of data
- Preparation of documentation
- Upload to the COCA online Armature system
- Communication
- Executive summary
The online report

### MSUCOM COMPREHENSIVE SITE VISIT FEBRUARY 2018

#### Standard 1

**Standard 1 Mission and Governance**

A COM must have a written statement of mission and goals for the osteopathic medical education program, conduct ongoing planning and assessment, and have written bylaws that describe an effective organizational structure and governance processes. In the conduct of all internal and external activities, the COM must demonstrate integrity through its consistent and documented adherence to fair, impartial, and effective processes, policies, and practices.

**Element 1.1 Program Mission: (CORE)**

A College of Osteopathic Medicine (COM) must produce and publish a written mission statement for the program that explains the overall purpose of the program and serves as guide for program planning and assessment. If the COM is part of a larger educational institution or parent institution, the COM’s mission shall be consistent with the institution’s mission. The COM must review the program mission periodically and revise it as appropriate, including faculty and students, at a minimum, in the process.

Provide copies of program mission / vision (optional) / goals or objectives (optional) and a public link to where the documents are published.
The online report

• Data collection
  – Table 6: curriculum
  – Table 7a and b: faculty and staff
  – Table 8: scholarly activity and research

• Supplemental information
  – “bundles”

• Who has access?
The Site Visit

• Notice and team assignments
• Schedule template
• Organize attendees
• Preparation of documentation
• Logistics
  – Sites
  – Travel
Site visit observations

Onsite documentation
Site visit observations

- Adapt the schedule to tell your story
- Anticipate questions
- Include enough participants
- Information for participants
- Be prepared to produce additional documents
- Be prepared to adjust schedule on the fly
ARE WE THERE YET?
Questions?

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