

# The Accreditation Review



**Mission: Accreditation**  
**Destination: 2023**  
**Path to Possible**

## WELCOME!

January 2022, volume 2, issue 1

Welcome to SCC's Accreditation Review! This is the eighth issue of the SCC Accreditation Steering Team's newsletter that provides the College with accreditation updates and shares important information about accreditation processes. Our last issue was in November 2021, and we are excited about all the progress that was made during the Fall 2021 semester. Read on for the latest accreditation news and the most important Passport Challenge to date!

## Criterion Corner

The Criteria for Accreditation are the standards of quality by which HLC will determine whether SCC merits reaffirmation of accreditation in Spring 2023. Each month we will review one or more parts of the five Criteria.

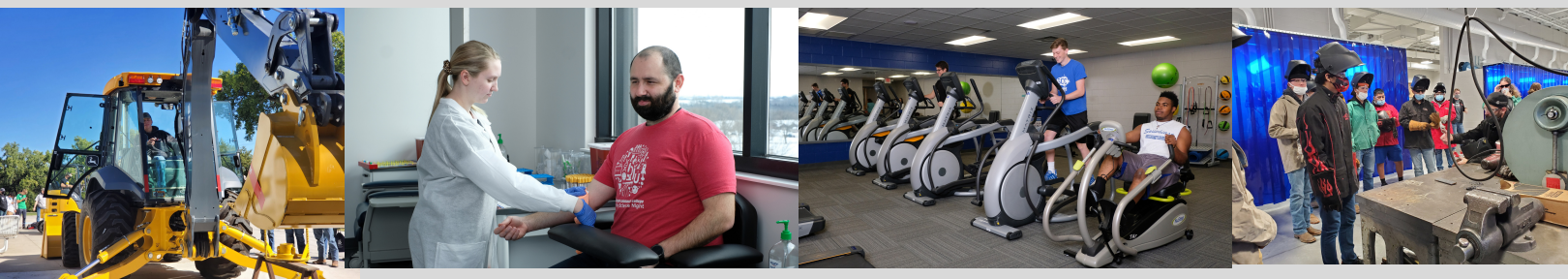
Criterion 1 is focused on the institution's mission. SCC's current mission statement was revised in 2020 as part of the 2020-2024 Strategic Planning process and is as follows:

*The mission of Southeast Community College is to empower and transform the diverse learners and communities of southeast Nebraska through accessible lifelong educational opportunities. The College provides dynamic and responsive pathways to career and technical, academic transfer, and continuing education programs that contribute to personal, community, and workforce development.*

*In February, we will focus on the ways in which SCC and its employees serve the communities in the institution's 15-county service area and beyond, which is a key factor of **Core Components 1.B and 1.C**.*

- **1.B states:** *The institution's mission demonstrates commitment to the public good.*
- **1.C states:** *The institution provides opportunities for civic engagement in a diverse, multicultural society and globally connected world, as appropriate within its mission and for the constituencies it serves.*

*A couple examples of employees who live out civic engagement at SCC are Phip Ross, Developmental English program chair, and Amanda Skuban, Dental Assisting instructor. We have asked them to share their testimonials for this issue. Continued on page 3.*



# Accreditation Passport

The Accreditation Passport Challenge program is designed to help the College community learn about the accreditation process, **assist in gathering evidence**, and prepare for the HLC site visit. Each Challenge takes five minutes or less to complete!

Thank you to the numerous employees who have participated in the Passport Challenges to date! January's participants will be receiving a small prize for completing the January Challenge of providing a recap of the campus in-service HLC presentations.

**February's Passport Challenge focuses on gathering evidence regarding community engagement.** In honor of Valentine's Day, our **February Passport Challenge theme is "Gifts of Love"** through service to SCC and the communities it serves.

Here is your chance to share how you are involved in your local community! (See the testimonials of Phip Ross and Amanda Skuban above to get an idea about the type of information we are requesting.)

SCC's talented Institutional Research Office created an interactive dashboard to track completed Passport Challenges. **Check out your own passport at:** <https://www.sccaccreditation.com/passport>.

It's easy to access the Accreditation Passport monthly challenge! To do so, follow the steps below:

1. Go to <https://www.sccaccreditation.com/passport>.
2. Click "Begin the Challenge" and you will be redirected to the Canvas course.
3. **OR** go straight to Canvas to compete the Challenge.

Thank you once again to everyone who has submitted Passport Challenges thus far! We will try to address the "Burning Questions" that came up during the January Passport Challenge in each of the upcoming newsletters.

The **Burning Question** we'll address this issue is:

- **Q.** What is the greatest challenge with our accreditation process at this time, and how can employees help?
- **A.** The greatest challenge this spring is to get everyone involved as we focus on gathering additional evidence that is needed for the HLC Assurance Argument narrative report to be submitted prior to the site visit in Spring 2023. This is where **EVERYONE** can participate with submissions to the Passport Challenges!



# Criterion Corner, continued

**Phip Ross** serves on KZUM's Board of Directors and volunteers at Lincoln Literacy and Gathering Place.

*Serving on KZUM's Board connects me to local volunteers engaged with growing and celebrating diversity and bringing people together. This expands my perspective on community-building and how we lift people up beyond educational institutions.*

*As a Lincoln Literacy volunteer for the Lincoln/Lancaster County Correctional Center, I am able to build perspective and compassion and respect for those I might fear which prepares me to serve all who come to SCC.*

*The volunteer work at Gathering Place not only enhances my lived experience with those whose challenges are different than mine but also connects me to a larger context for solving issues that can be barriers to educational progress.*

**Amanda Skuban** discusses her community involvement:

*As a professional, I feel it is my civic responsibility to educate those in our community who may not know about dentistry or how to care for their mouth. Speaking to groups, volunteering at clinics, and participating in state missions are just a few ways of doing so. It is also my responsibility to lead students in becoming engaged with their community. Presenting and encouraging opportunities for giving back, volunteering, and participating in this type of involvement is always a rewarding and positive experience for everyone.*

*You will have a chance to share YOUR civic engagement in the February Accreditation Passport Challenge (detailed below).*

## Shawna's Shout Outs!

Every month, Shawna's Shout Outs will include recognition of an individual or team of employees who has gone above and beyond!

As we all know, the end of one semester and beginning of the next is a hectic time on campus. There are many individuals who work tirelessly to make everything run smoothly. **This month's Shout Out goes to Lori Vancura, associate registrar** on the Lincoln Campus. Lori sifts through countless emails, mailed forms, phone calls, etc. to prepare for graduation, prep diplomas to be mailed, finalize reports, and process end-of-term grades, graduate records, and grade changes...all before the holiday break. Then the work continues after break with schedule revisions, cross-listing classes, class assignments, room changes, inquiries from students, assisting with catalog revisions, degree audits, and much more. Lori has been known to say "I'm just doing my job," but those impacted by the amazing "job" she does greatly appreciate Lori's efficiency and accuracy during these long and hard in-service days.

Thank you to Lori and the entire Registration and Records Team for keeping us in compliance with federal guidelines and making things run smoothly for our students, faculty, and staff.

**Questions about SCC's accreditation processes, initiatives, or anything else accreditation-related at SCC?** Please email [accreditation@southeast.edu](mailto:accreditation@southeast.edu) or [sherwick@southeast.edu](mailto:sherwick@southeast.edu).