



## Dear Colleagues,

The [Higher Learning Commission](#) (HLC) is the institutional accreditation agency with authority from the U.S. Department of Education to accredit the University of Arizona. On April 26 and 27, HLC peer reviewers will conduct a virtual, comprehensive review of the University.

The last comprehensive review by HLC was in December 2010. Over 100 University employees are involved in the [preparation](#) for the current review.

HLC accreditation “validates quality of an institution as a whole” and the reviewers assess quality and improvement as outlined in HLC’s [Guiding Values](#) and [Criteria for Accreditation](#).

### The evaluation includes reviews of the following:

- the mission
- degree programs, including all levels, locations, and modes of delivery
- assessment of student learning
- persistence and degree completion
- processes and policies
- faculty qualifications
- planning, finances, and resources
- governance and administration
- compliance with federal guidelines

This is a very important review for the University of Arizona. Institutional accreditation is required for the University to receive federal financial aid and to offer accredited degrees.

### How can you help?

- Faculty, advisors, department heads, deans, directors, and other administrators should try to keep their calendar free April 26 and April 27 through noon for potential meetings with the reviewers.
- Attend HLC virtual meetings appropriate to your position and expertise.
- Be familiar with the information in the [HLC Assurance Argument](#).
- Update your Zoom software and use a stable internet connection.

The HLC peer reviewers will notify the University of the [schedule](#) in a few weeks.

If you have questions, please contact [Gail Burd](#).

#### **Liesl Folks, Ph.D., M.B.A.**

Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

#### **Gail D. Burd, Ph.D.**

Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, Teaching, and Learning

The University of Arizona

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*This email was sent to: Faculty, staff, and DCCs.*

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