

INFORMATION ITEM #3

NWCCU Year Six Accreditation Update and Accreditation Liaison Officer (ALO) Change (T. Chris Riley-Tillman)

During the spring 2024 semester, WSU was [notified by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities](#) (NWCCU) that its Year Six Report and evaluation would be delayed until spring 2026. The original evaluation was scheduled for spring 2024, and the Board of Regents previously approved WSU's report in November 2023.

Due to the modified schedule, WSU will submit a revised Year Six Report to NWCCU to support continuing accreditation of the institution in March 2026. As such, the Regents will be asked to review the revised report during the fall 2025 semester. As a gentle reminder, the Year Six Report is the first step in the federal institutional review process and will be followed the next year by the submission of a Year Seven Mission Fulfillment Report and a subsequent site visit in spring 2027.

As noted above, the revised draft of the Year Six Report focused on Standard 2 (Governance, Resources, and Capacity) will be submitted to the Board of Regents in September 2025. The report will articulate WSU's commitment to a structure of governance that is inclusive in its planning and decision-making. Through our planning, operational activities, and allocation of resources, the report will demonstrate WSU's commitment to student learning and achievement in an environment respectful of meaningful discourse. A revised timeline is provided below for the Board of Regents' awareness.

2025-2026 Timeline for Accreditation Report and Site Visit

- September-November: Regents review the draft report, provide feedback, and approve
- December: Final changes made
- March: Report submitted to NWCCU
- June: WSU's accreditation liaison officer will attend the NWCCU Board of Commissioners meeting for review of the report

Additionally, the Provost's Office is delighted to inform the Board of Regents that President Schulz and Provost Riley-Tillman have named a new Accreditation Liaison Officer (ALO), Dr. William (Bill) Davis, effective August 1, 2024. Dr. Davis currently serves as Vice Provost for Academic Engagement and Student Achievement. He has been actively involved in accreditation-related matters since the fall of 2022 and supported the former ALO (Dr. Craig Parks). We are confident that the transition between Drs. Parks and Davis will be successful, and WSU's accreditation will remain a top priority.

The Provost's Office is grateful for Dr. Parks' service as the University's ALO. His contributions have been significant over the last six years, and his leadership led WSU to a successful onsite year seven reaccreditation visit in 2018.