MEMORANDUM

To: Dr.

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A Regional University of the University System of Georgia & an Equal Opportunity Institution

One of the Academic Affairs goals for the year was to increase professional development opportunities for faculty. We were able to invite a talented individual to campus on November 9, 2012 who presented two workshops on institutional effectiveness. Thirty-five participated in the morning workshop and twelve participated in the afternoon workshop. Another eighteen attended a rubric development workshop held on February 8, 2013.

After reviewing the Institutional Effectiveness Reports and Plans in Fall 2012, the committee noted that some academic programs published student learning outcomes we believed were worded such that assessment would be complicated or impossible. Using that data, we conducted a full audit of all academic programs and provided written feedback to the department head and program coordinator for consideration. Several departments submitted catalog request changes, and others are in the process of reviewing the recommended changes.

During the spring semester, our meetings focused heavily on education. As such, we met with a representative from each college or administrative unit assessment committee to learn about their current assessment and accreditation processes and to see how the UAC could better serve our academic colleges.

I am providing an update on the status of our SACSCOC Fifth Year Interim report (due March 2016). The template has been started. The report will consist of responses for 21 standards. I believe that we have good processes in place; however, standards are revised yearly, and we will need to allocate time to review and implement the revisions. Our SACSCOC timeline is posted at www.valdosta.edu/sacs.

For our 2010 SACSCOC reaffirmation, VSU used a home-built SACS Portal. This platform is now antiquated and will be decommissioned after Summer 2013. The portal itself will not disappear because it remains a repository of critical university information; however, we will begin utilizing other technologies. Firstly, Digital Measures will serve as the repository for all course syllabi and faculty credentials (degrees, scholarship). This software was endorsed by the Faculty Senate, Deans, Department Heads, etc. in Spring 2012. I have scheduled five Digital Measures training sessions from May-August to introduce faculty to this system. Secondly, LiveText can be utilized to store SACSCOC compliance standards and their associated documents. Other institutions are already utilizing this software for this purpose. Over the summer, this will be investigated as an option.

It will be my pleasure to serve as Chair for next year. Agendas and minutes from all of our 2012-13 meetings are posted online at www.valdosta.edu/uac. We appreciate your continued support of our practices and look forward to improving them and expanding our services throughout campus in 2013-14. Should you have any questions, please let me know.