How to Rock the CAEP: 
Having the Right Disposition, People, & Data  
Lessons Learned 
from 60 Years of 
Accreditation 

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Spoiler Alert!

Whether it is your first year or 60th year, accreditation is always new, stressful, and challenging…

…as it should be.
The Buck Stops

Dean

CAEP Coordinator
Right Attitude and People

• Choose people for attitude, skills, and work ethic, not politics.
• We must have and model the right disposition as an institution. If we are going through the accreditation process simply because it’s a hoop we must jump through, then our disposition is all wrong.
Our Team
It’s All About the Standards

- CAEP Standards
- INTASC Standards
- SPA Standards
- State Standards for EPP’s
- State Standards for Students

Alignment is Key
Key Assessments

• EPP
• Every standard
• Every program
• Every class
• Every student
Create a Data-Driven Culture

A data-driven culture is an environment that employs a valid, consistent, and iterative approach to decision-making through the emphatic and empirical use of data, with minimal bias.

(Edmondson, A. C. & McManus, S. E., 2005)
Components

- Gauge faculty’s appreciation of and ability to use data.
- Map data sources.
- Make all data transparent and focal.
- Implement reward-sharing mechanisms.
- Identify areas of friction.
- Continuously improve.
Produce or Collect?

- In-house system for collection
- Student Information System
- Electronic support - LiveText
- Institutional Research Office
- State Education Agency Reports
- Other sources
Make Data Driven Decisions

http://www.apsu.edu/education/2010/assessmentsystem
Embrace Research & Practice

Some programs are either research-oriented or practitioner-based. However, research and practice do not have to be mutually exclusive. In fact, they should go hand-in-hand.
Research-Based Practice

Research Analysis
- Interpret Results
- Analyze Data

Research Design
- Predict Answer
- Test & Collect Data

Question
Partnerships

• School Districts
• Schools
• Teachers
• Alumni
• State Education Agency
• Other Colleges within University

(Darling-Hammond, 2006)
The vision of the Stewart County School District is to inspire in all the desire to learn and succeed. Our schools will be safe learning communities that celebrate our achievements and encourage active partnerships with families and the entire community. We will empower students to embrace the challenges and opportunities of the future.
Forge the Right Partnerships

Much of the hard work necessary for accreditation is already being done by someone. The trick is to grease the gears of the operation.

Hard Work, More Effort → Same Work, Less Effort
First Night of our Visit
Culture of Accreditation

- Continuously collecting data
- Always revising
- Collaborative inquiry in faculty meetings
- Data Retreat

(Goodlad, 1994)
Network!

- Go to CAEP and AACTE conferences
- Bring CAEP staff to local conferences
- Share within state
- Be a site visitor
- Adopt or develop best practices
Have Fun
Continuous Improvement

1954
APSU’s First Accreditation

1990s
Input Model

2001
Output Model

2011
Transformational Focus

2013
CAEP Standards

Preparing professionals through standards-based practices
We do it for the students
...not because we have to,

...but because we want to.
Last Thoughts
References


Questions? Comments?

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THANKS FOR COMING!

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