



DARE TO DO MORE

As many of you know, on Wednesday, we completed our Middle States Self-Study Evaluation Visit and it went quite well. The site visit was a major step in the three-year process to renew the college's accreditation. During the two-day review (all on Zoom), a team of evaluators from peer institutions met with students, faculty, and staff to confirm the validity of our Self-Study -- the 143-page, 62,255-word institutional self-assessment prepared by dozens of LaGuardia faculty and staff volunteers.

The Middle States evaluators gave us a very positive review. In the words of Steering Committee Co-Chair, Dr. Justin Rogers-Cooper (Professor of English), the evaluators, "affirmed our Self-Study findings and affirmed our compliance with all requirements of affiliation...the team noted that our Self-Study reflected a college that was 'impressive' and lived a 'spirit of innovation,' and complimented a community who were 'deeply committed to the institution.' In addition, Justin noted, "We received the rare distinction of special commendation in six of the seven Middle States Standards."

These are high marks, and we should all be proud. Still, the process is not over. We should receive a written evaluation next month and a formal decision by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education in June.

Heartfelt thanks to Justin and his Co-Chair, Dr. Reem Jaafar (Professor of Mathematics), Dr. Paul Arcario, Provost, Dr. Nava Lerer, Dean for Institutional Effectiveness, Robert Jaffe, Special Advisor to the President and Interim Executive Director of Marketing and Communications, and the many members of the Steering Committee and Working Groups for their herculean efforts to ensure LaGuardia's accreditation, without which we cease to operate.

I would also like to acknowledge the support from IT, Marketing and Communications, and the Library. Finally, we are grateful to Dr. Donald Guy General, President of the Community College of Philadelphia, and Chair of the Middle States Evaluation Team, and the six Peer Evaluators on his team.

I look forward to keeping you informed as the process concludes in June.

Thank you.