

CONFERENCE *for* MERCY HIGHER EDUCATION

Mercy Self Study & Peer Review – Biennial and Biennial Midpoint Conversations

Overall purpose of review process: (Source: *Cycle 2 Self-Study & Peer Review 2022*)

1. To assure the religious sponsors of Mercy colleges and universities — the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas — that Mercy institutions are embracing the purpose for which they were founded: to offer higher education in the spirit and ethos of Mercy, and
2. To **examine, assess, celebrate, and support** each college/university’s embrace of Mission as a Mercy Catholic ministry of higher education — in the present moment and into the future.

Regular Communications:

“Ensure regular communications via biennial conversations with the Board Chairs and Presidents of the member institutions relative to issues of Catholic identity and the Mercy mission in higher education. The recommendations of the *Mission Self-study* and the *Visiting Team’s Report* will inform these discussions.”

Source: “Mutual Accountabilities to Sustain the Commitment” *Covenant 2022*

Biennial Conversation

Considering the most recent CMHE Self-Study – Peer Review (SS-PR) and Team’s Report, the Covenant, current circumstances, as well as your institution’s strategic plan, and goals, how is Mission integration consistent with these and how is Mission moving forward since the last SS-PR?

This point of engagement is a *conversation* and could be virtual. It includes the institution’s President, Board Chair, the CMHE Executive Director, and CMHE Board Chair or delegate.

Prior to the conversation the institution submits to CMHE a two-page report of responses to the above question.

Post conversation, CMHE summarizes key points of the institution’s reflection and the conversation. In the spirit of the main CMHE Self-Study - Peer Review, the framework for the process keeps at the forefront the need to **examine, assess, celebrate, and support**.

Source: “Implementation” *Covenant 2022*

Biennial - Midpoint Conversation

Considering the most recent CMHE SS-PR and Team's Report, the Covenant, current circumstances, as well as your institution's strategic plan, and goals, how is Mission integration consistent with these and how is Mission moving forward since the last SS-PR?

This engagement is a hybrid process (one or more visit the campus and one or more join virtually), with an opportunity to hear and see how Mission is alive at the institution. One half day of conversations includes President and Board Chair of the Institution, and could include Mission Officer, Provost, Campus Ministry, or other key players, depending on circumstances and the nature and needs of the institution and CMHE. Representing CMHE would include its Executive Director, Board Chair or delegate, and could include CMHE associate director for Mission or a delegate.

A limited two-three-page report of the status of Mission would be submitted to CMHE two weeks prior to the limited visit. The institution will highlight progress on prior recommendations made in CMHE Team Report, accomplishments and situations of note?
In the spirit of the main CMHE Self-Study - Peer Review, the framework for the process keeps at the forefront the need to **examine, assess, celebrate, and support.**

CMHE and the Institutions will be attentive to the 2nd Cycle Schedule of SS-PRs and flexible to work with regional accrediting schedules, knowing that these schedules are not all the same and some associations may be altering the number of years between visits.

The spirit of the values and purposes, as noted at the top of this document, will guide the framework.