

**Federal Compliance Material Packet
Report to The Higher Learning Commission
Augsburg College
AQIP Quality Checkup Site Visit, February 7-9, 2007**

This report provides an institutional response to the areas requested for inclusion in Augsburg College's Federal Compliance Material Packet.

1. Organizational Compliance with the Higher Education Reauthorization Act

• **Student Loan Default Rate**

Augsburg's student loan default rate for Fiscal Year 2004, the most recent information available, is 1.2%. This is well below the 4.5-5.0% national average for 4-year private colleges. Of the 664 students eligible and applying for student loans 8 entered into repayment and defaulted. There was a similarly low percentage of students defaulting on their loan repayment plans in Fiscal Years 2002 and 2003 (1.7% and 2.2%, respectively). Copies of the most recent United States Department of Education Student Loan Default Letters can be found at

http://moodle.augsburg.edu/aqip/Federal_Compliance_Material_Packet_Documentation/Compliance_Default_Letters

Augsburg College's low student loan default rate is attributed, in large part, to the decision in 2003 to administer student loans solely through Great Lakes Higher Education Corporation (GLHEC). Information on GLHEC can be found at <http://www.glhec.org>. Prior to 2003, Educational Assistance Corporation (EAC) and GLHEC were administering student loans for Augsburg College students. GLHEC is nationally ranked among the top three guarantee companies providing services to institutions of higher education and their students. Due mainly to its high success rate at curing delinquent accounts, in 2003 Augsburg made the decision to work solely with GLHEC and end its relationship with EAC. Augsburg plans to continue its affiliation with GLHEC in the management of its student loans.

• **Commission Goals Related to Title IV Funding**

Augsburg College is a recipient of Title IV funding. In its history of receiving federal funds, Augsburg has had its eligibility confirmed at each 6-year renewal interval. This fall the College submitted its most recent application for eligibility renewal and anticipates receipt of these results in late December.

The documents listed below provide evidence of Augsburg's compliance with federal funding requirements under Title IV. Electronic files of these documents can be found at the following links:

- Program Participation Agreement (PPA)
http://moodle.augsburg.edu/aqip/Federal_Compliance_Material_Packet_Documentation/PPA_Prog_and_Participation_Agreement.pdf
- Eligibility and Certification Renewal (ECAR)
http://moodle.augsburg.edu/aqip/Federal_Compliance_Material_Packet_Documentation/ECAR_Eligibility_and_Cert_Approval_Report.pdf

- Current Default Rate Notification Letter
http://moodle.augsburg.edu/aqip/Federal_Compliance_Material_Packet_Documentation/Compliance_Default_Letters/Default_Letter_2004.pdf

Further evidence of the College's ability to maintain its eligibility for federal funding is revealed in its compliance record. Augsburg College has not had to undergo a program review, has not experienced any limitation, suspension, or termination (LST) action, or an audit by the Inspector General of the USDE.

Augsburg College complies with the Jeanne Cleary Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics. Augsburg's Department of Public Safety produces an annual report that includes required policy and statistical information. Reported crime statistics include crimes reported to the College and information from local law enforcement. Timely warnings are issued for Part One offenses that pose an ongoing threat to the safety of the community. Records are retained in accordance with the law. Augsburg reporting data is available at <http://www.ope.ed.gov/security/InstDetail.asp>.

2. Commission Policy 1.C.7, Credits, Program Length, and Tuition

Undergraduate degree programs offered at Augsburg have a requirement of 32 course credits. This requirement is in line with graduation requirements of regional 4-year private colleges.

Tuition and fees for the Day program at the Minneapolis campus are comparable to regional 4-year private colleges. This information can be found at <http://www.augsburg.edu/enroll/account/daycostattend0607.pdf>

Information comparing undergraduate program credits, program length and tuition at Augsburg College with comparable institutions is provided in Table 2.1. **Please note that one course at Augsburg is equal to four semester credits.**

**Table 2.1
Undergraduate Program Comparison
with Regional Colleges and Universities**

College*	Credit Requirement	Program Length	Tuition 2006-2007
Augsburg College Minneapolis, MN	32(128 credits)	4-4	\$23,393
Bethel University Roseville, MN	122 credits	4-1-4	\$22,700
College of St. Catherine St. Paul, MN	130 credits	4-4	\$24,388
College of St. Scholastica Duluth, MN	128 credits	4-4	\$23,574

Concordia University St. Paul, MN	128 credits	4-4	\$22,378
Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, MN	32 (128 credits)	4-1-4	\$26,700
Hamline University St. Paul, MN	128 credits	4-1-4	\$25,040
University of St. Thomas St. Paul, MN	132 credits	4-1-4	\$24,808

*List of MN Private Colleges Comprehensive Charges for 2006-2007 can be found at

http://moodle.augsburg.edu/aqip/Federal_Compliance_Material_Packet_Documentation/MPCC_Comp_Charges.pdf

Undergraduate Weekend College, as well as Rochester and Graduate Program costs are comparable to similar programs offered at regional 4-year private colleges. Tuition and fees information for these programs can be found at http://www.augsburg.edu/enroll/account/fees_wecgrad.html.

Information comparing adult and graduate program credits, program length and tuition at Augsburg College with comparable institutions is provided in Table 2.2. **Please note that one course at Augsburg is equal to four semester credits.**

Table 2.2
Undergraduate Adult Program Comparison
with Regional Colleges and Universities

Weekend College

College	Credit Requirement	Program Length	Cost
Augsburg College Minneapolis, MN	32 (128 credits)	5-5½ years	\$1,570/course (\$393/credit)
Bethel University St. Paul, MN	122 credits	5-5½ years	\$355/credit
College of St. Catherine St. Paul, MN	130 credits	5-5½ years	\$1,568/course (\$392/credit)
Metropolitan State Univ. Minneapolis, MN	120-124 credits	4-5 years	\$161/credit (MN res.) \$322/credit (non-MN res.)

Rochester

College	Credit Requirement	Program Length	Cost
Augsburg College Rochester, MN	32 (128 credits)	4 years	\$1,155/course (\$289/credit)
Cardinal Stritch University Rochester, MN	128 credits	4 years	\$550/credit
St. Mary's University Rochester, MN	122 credits	4 years	\$285/credit
Winona State University Rochester, MN	128 credits	4 years	\$185/credit

**Table 2.3
Graduate Adult Program Comparison
with Regional Colleges and Universities**

Rochester

College	Master of Arts in Nursing	Master of Business Admin.	Master of Arts in Education
Augsburg College Rochester, MN	10 (40 credits) 2-3 years \$1,544/course (\$386/credit)	12 (48 credits) 1½-2 years \$1,800/course (\$450/credit)	9 (36 credits) 1-2 years \$1,764/course (\$441/credit)
Cardinal Stritch University Rochester, MN	36 credits 2 years \$615/credit	36 credits 2 years \$550/credit	32 credits 1½ years \$370/credit
Winona State University Rochester, MN	40-43 credits 2-3 years \$273/credit	n/a	33 credits 1½ years \$273/credit
St. Mary's University Rochester, MN	n/a	36-44 credits 1½-2 years \$375-420/credit.	32 credits 1½ years \$285/credit

Master of Arts in Education

College	Credit Requirement	Program Length	Cost
Augsburg College Minneapolis, MN	9 (36 credits)	1-2 years	\$1,764/course (\$441/credit)

College of St. Catherine St. Paul, MN	65 credits	2-3 years	\$448/credit
Hamline University St. Paul, MN	34 credits	2-3 years	\$411/credit
St. Mary's University Rochester, MN	32 credits	2-3 years	\$285/credit
University of Minnesota Minneapolis, MN	31-33 credits	2-3 years	\$775/credit (MN res.); \$1,366/credit (non-res.)

Master of Arts in Leadership

College	Credit Requirement	Program Length	Cost
Augsburg College Minneapolis, MN	11 (44 credits)	2-3 years	\$1,764/course (\$441/credit)
Bethel University St. Paul, MN	36 credits	2 years	\$395/credit
College of St. Catherine St. Paul, MN	38 credits	2 years	\$592/credit
St. Mary's University Minneapolis, MN	36 credits	5 semesters	\$420/credit

Master of Arts in Nursing

College	Credit Requirement	Program Length	Cost
Augsburg College Minneapolis, MN	11 (44 credits)	2½-3 years	\$1,544/course (\$386/credit)
Bethel University St. Paul, MN	42 credits	2½-3 years	\$395/credit
College of St. Catherine St. Paul, MN	40 credits	2 years	\$608/credit
Metro State University Minneapolis, MN	31 credits	2 years	\$325/credit

Master of Business Administration

College	Credit Requirement	Program Length	Cost
Augsburg College Minneapolis, MN	12 (48 credits)	20 months.	\$1,800/course (\$450/credit)
Bethel University St. Paul, MN	40 credits	2½ years	\$355/credit
Carlson School of Mgmt. Minneapolis, MN	63 credits	2 years	\$900/credit

St. Mary's University Rochester, MN	63 credits	2-2½ years	\$375-420/credit
University of St. Thomas St. Paul, MN	61 credits	2 years	\$669/credit

Master of Social Work

College	Credit Requirement	Program Length	Cost
Augsburg College Minneapolis, MN	13 (52 credits)	1½-2 years	\$1,764/course (\$441/credit)
College of St. Catherine/ University of St. Thomas (joint program) St. Paul, MN	42 credits	1-3 years	\$529/credit
University of Minnesota Minneapolis, MN	34 credits	1½-3 years	\$775/credit (MN res.); \$1,366/ credit (non-res.)
University of Minnesota Duluth, MN	34 credits	1½-3 years	\$775/credit (MN res.); \$1,366/ credit (non-res.)

Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies

The Augsburg College Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies is a 36-month program. This is slightly longer than the mean program length of 27 months as reported in the 21st annual report of physician assistant programs. However, that mean of 27 months takes into account all types of physician assistant programs from associate to master's degree programs. While the annual report does not delineate between graduate and undergraduate length, it is estimated from analyzing the lengths of graduate programs, that the mean for those programs is 29 months. The length of the Augsburg program is due to the time in the clinical experience and the final month of review prior to graduation that prepares students for their career.

The total program tuition for a student entering the Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies program in 2006 was \$63,750. In May, 2006 the starting salary in Minnesota for a physician assistant working in Primary Care was \$65,000. The 21st annual report stated that the mean tuition for the country in 2005 was \$44,723, with a range of \$5,150 to \$87,800 and a mean of \$36,623 in the Midwestern region of the country. While Augsburg's tuition is on the higher end of the scale, it should be noted that the annual report does not distinguish between the type of education received and the type of institution attended (public vs. private).

3. **Commission Policy III.A.3. Requirements of Organizations Holding Dual Institutional Accreditation**

Several academic departments maintain accreditation with their discipline-specific national accrediting agency. A complete record of these affiliations with current successful review information is provided in Table 3.1.

**Table 3.1
Discipline-Specific National Accrediting Agencies**

Accrediting Agency	Academic Discipline	Year of Most Recent Review	Year of Next Review
Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education	Nursing	Undergrad., 2002 Grad., 2004	Undergrad., 2009 Grad., 2006
Accreditation Review Commission on Education For the Physician Assistant, Inc.	Physician Assistant	2002	2008
National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education	Education	2005	2010
Minnesota Board of Teaching	Education	2004	2011
National Association of Schools of Music	Music	2000	2007
Council on Social Work Education	Social Work	Undergrad., 2001 Grad., 2000*	Undergrad., 2009 Grad., 2007
American Chemical Society	Chemistry	Initial site visit only. Annual reports and 5-year cumulative reports required.**	Next 5-year report due 2009

* **Social Work** - As a result of their site visit in February, 2000, site team evaluators from the Council on Social Work Education identified three areas of noncompliance as well as four areas of concern. In November, 2000 the Social Work Department submitted a Restoration Report to the Council, addressing each of the noncompliance items and the areas of concern. After reviewing this Restoration Report the Council voted to restore the College's Master of Social Work Program to fully accredited status. The Executive Summary of the Social Work Restoration Report can be found at [http://moodle.augsburg.edu/aqip/Federal Compliance Material Packet Documentation/SWK_Restoration_Report.pdf](http://moodle.augsburg.edu/aqip/Federal%20Compliance%20Material%20Packet%20Documentation/SWK_Restoration_Report.pdf)

** **Chemistry** - During the 2003-2004 transition of Chemistry Department chairs the required ACS 5-year cumulative report was not submitted on time. This report

was submitted 10 months later. During that 10-month period the Department's accreditation was probationary. Probationary status was removed 3/30/05, and is now without stipulation.

4. Commission Policy IV.B.3, Organizational Records of Student Complaints

Augsburg provides a comprehensive set of procedures for student grievances involving faculty members. Information about the "Grievance Procedures Involving Augsburg College Faculty Members and Students" is included in the *Student Handbook*, which is available electronically. The procedures and accompanying forms are also available electronically in the Academic Affairs public folder, as well as in hard copy from the Offices of the Vice President of Student Affairs and the Vice President of Academic Affairs. Copies of the grievance procedures and the Informal Grievance Form are available at [http://moodle.augsburg.edu/aqip/Federal Compliance Material Packet Documentation/Student Grievance Procedures](http://moodle.augsburg.edu/aqip/Federal_Compliance_Material_Packet_Documentation/Student_Grievance_Procedures).

In Fall, 2006 the Office of the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of the College developed a log to track student grievances.

In addition, a log to track all student complaints presented to the Dean's Office will be established in January, 2007. The Assistant to the Dean will keep the log and will follow through on each concern by connecting the student with the appropriate faculty, staff, administrator or office, by identifying the appropriate process related to the student's concern, or by relaying the student's concern to the appropriate individual. The President's Office is also creating a log to track student complaints.

A record of financial petitions, which are reviewed by the Financial Petition Committee, is kept in the Office of the Vice President of Student Affairs. Petitions for exceptions to academic policies are recorded by the Registrar's Office and are reviewed by the Student Standing Committee.

5. Commission Goals Related to Soliciting Third-Party Comment

Several venues were used to advertise Augsburg's upcoming Quality Checkup for re-accreditation with The Higher Learning Commission. Each of these advertisements invites public comment. An example of an Augsburg advertisement inviting third-party comment can be found at [http://moodle.augsburg.edu/aqip/Federal Compliance Material Packet Documentation/Third Party Comment Ad.pdf](http://moodle.augsburg.edu/aqip/Federal_Compliance_Material_Packet_Documentation/Third_Party_Comment_Ad.pdf).

Names of venues, dates of advertisement, contact information and targeted populations for each notice are listed in Table 5.1.

**Table 5.1
Third-Party Comment Advertisements**

Venue	Ad Run Date(s)	Contact	Target Population
Augsburg College Web Site	11/17/06-1/7/07	Cherie Christ 612-330-1476	Students (potential, current, alumni, former), parents, families; general population
Minneapolis Star Tribune/St. Paul Pioneer Press	11/22/06	Terry Estes Bayard/Ludlow 952-703-2504	Local business and broader community members (e.g., government offices)
The Bridge (community paper)	Dec. issue	Bonita Kosciolk 612-436-9163	Local neighborhood community members (paper covers 10 neighborhoods)
ELCA web-based The Lutheran www.thelutheran.org	11/21/06 – 1/1/07	Andrea Pohlman 800-638-3522	National and international Lutheran community members
Rochester Journal	11/25,29, 12/1/06	Terry Estes, Bayard/Ludlow 952-703-2504	Rochester community members, students, families

6. Commission Policy IV.A.6 Advertising and Recruitment Materials

Augsburg College identifies its accreditation through The Higher Learning Commission in publications such as the official College Catalog and graduate program catalogs. The HLC web site and local phone number are noted in these references. Samples of these publications will be available for examination during the AQIP Quality Checkup Site Visit.