

University of Guam

Media Briefing
WASC Accreditation and Educational
Effectiveness Review
March 16, 2009

Helen Whippy, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President
WASC Accreditation Liaison Officer



Briefing on Accreditation

- What is WASC?
- Why do we need WASC accreditation?
- The Timeline
- Current indicators (How are we doing?)
- The Educational Effectiveness Review
- Questions



What is WASC?

- One of six regional US accrediting agencies
- 501(c) 3 non-profit corporation, founded in 1962
- Western Association of Schools and Colleges
 - ACS-Accrediting Commission for Schools (4000+)
 - ACCJC-Accrediting Commission for Junior and Community Colleges (150)
 - Senior-Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities (161)
 - www.wascsenior.org



WASC Senior Commission

- Board of Commissioners (25 elected members, including one rep from Pacific Basin, one rep from ACCJC, one from ACS)
- Reviewed periodically for renewal of recognition by the <u>US Department of Education</u> (USDOE)
- Reviewed periodically and recognized by the <u>Council for Higher Education Accreditation</u> (CHEA).



WASC Core Commitments

- Core Commitment to Institutional Capacity:
 - The institution functions with clear purposes, high levels of institutional integrity, fiscal stability, and organizational structures to fulfill its purposes.
- Core Commitment to Educational Effectiveness:
 - The institution evidences clear and appropriate educational objectives and design at the institutional and program level. The institution employs processes of review, including the collection and use of data, which ensure delivery of programs and learner accomplishments at a level of performance appropriate for the degree or certificate awarded.



WASC Standards

- Standard I: Defining Institutional Purposes and Ensuring Educational Objectives
- Standard II: Achieving Educational Objectives Through Core Functions
- Standard III: Developing and Applying Resources and Organizational Structures to Ensure Sustainability
- Standard IV: Creating an Organization Committed to Learning and Improvement





- To be eligible to disperse Federal Financial Aid (Pell Grants, work-study, loans-about \$16M)
- To be eligible to receive Federal funds from grants and contracts (over \$13M p.a.)
- To allow our credits to transfer to other institutions
- To ensure degrees from UOG are accepted for graduate study at other universities
- As a prerequisite for professional program accreditation



Timeline

- 2002 WASC visit-reaccredited
- 2004 UOG Proposal approved with a plan and timeline for reviews
- 2005 WASC special visit and timeline was confirmed
- 2007 Capacity and Preparatory Review Visit
- 2009 Educational Effectiveness Visit



Current Indicators -How are we doing?

- Overview
- Enrollment
- Programs
- Staffing
- Finances



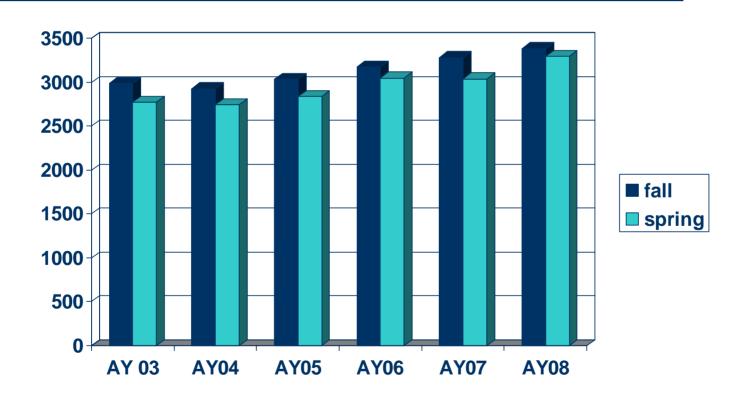
Overview

The University of Guam has

- been continuously accredited for 57 years;
- grown and improved over the past nine year, in enrollment, in grant revenue, in stature;
- increased and diversified revenue (GovGuam still the largest single source);
- defined our base, assessed our programs, and ordered our priorities.

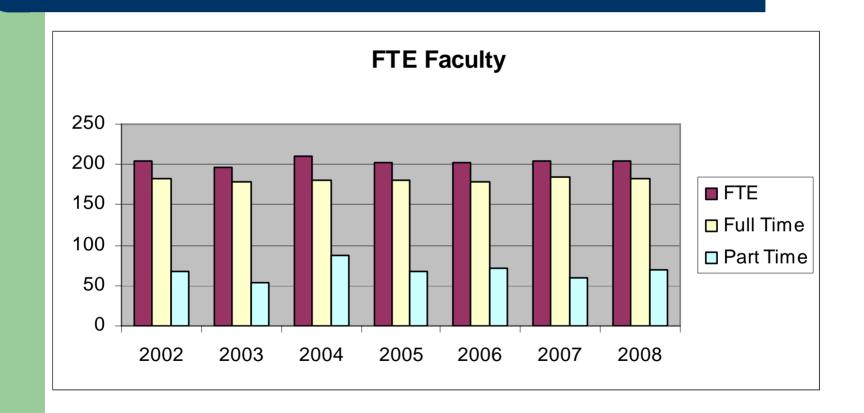
Trends in Enrollment Headcount

2003-2009



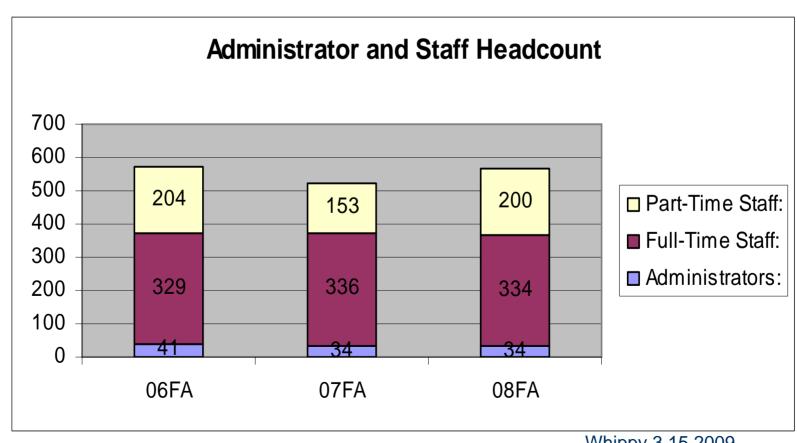


FTE Faculty (Full and Part Time)





Administrators and Staff Members





Grant Revenue Generated

	FY06*	FY07*	FY08**
Fed Grants & Contracts, State & Private Contracts	\$26M	\$26M	\$27.5M
(includes Federal Student Financial Aid)			

Source:

[•]UOG March 2008 Interim Financial Report to WASC; Budget Plans, Timelines, and Assumptions, FY06-FY11

^{•*}FY10 Budget and Strategic Financial Planning: Approach, Assumptions, and Guidelines FY07-FY11



Current Indicators -How are we doing?

- Enrollment-up 15 % over last four years
- Programs-35 undergrad and 15 grad
- Staffing-remained stable
- Finances-Challenging, managing to priorities in base budget, working with DOA/BBMR
- Diversifying revenue sources/increasing revenue
 - Tuition and enrollment
 - Grants and contracts
 - Entrepreneurial ventures/monitoring aux. programs



Financial Indicators

- GovGuam appropriated funds account for 39% of total revenues, but 70% of operational revenues
- The University generates \$1.54 for every \$1 received from the Government of Guam
- Base budget as submitted can only sustain the University, with no growth
- Forces straining capacity: enrollment increases and allotment holdbacks (5 of last 6 yrs)



The Educational Effectiveness Review

- Report prepared December 2008
- Team arrives March 30, 2009
- On campus visit March 31-April 2, 2009
- Team leaders meet with the Governor and with Legislative leadership as well as UOG
- The Chair of the team is Dr. John D. Welty,
 President of California State University-Fresno



What will we demonstrate?

- Assessment is used to make decisions about the curriculum
- Students meet the standards set by each program (evidence)
- University planning, priorities, budget, new programs, are considered after a review of funds available
- We don't just wish we had more \$\$, we fund our base first and leverage our \$\$ to generate more
- We work closely with the government and legislature on finances



Possible EE Review Outcome

- Best Case--reaffirm accreditation for 10 years with no special reports, visits or concerns
- Most Likely Case—reaffirm accreditation for 7-10 years with some interim reporting
- Worst Case—reaffirm accreditation for 4-5
 years with financial reports each year and a
 special visit, continue the Notice of Concern



Questions?

"The greatest problem in communication is the illusion that it has been accomplished."

George Bernard Shaw