

# Wilkes University

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

Dear Members of the Campus Community,

I am delighted to share that Wilkes University is in the initial planning stages of our upcoming Middle States Commission on Higher Education accreditation process. Obtaining this accreditation speaks to the quality and integrity of our values, mission, goals, performance and resources. We continue to foster institutional improvement and growth as we uphold arduous standards and peer review.

The journey to accreditation is highly collaborative and your participation and feedback are not just welcomed but essential. In preparation, we have created the MSCHE Coordination Committee. I am pleased to share that two of our University faculty members, Dr. Ruth Hughes and Dr. Brent Young, have agreed to serve as co-chairs of our self-study, a role of utmost importance in this process. I would like to express my gratitude to these two exceptionally talented community members for accepting these pivotal roles and the tremendous leadership they will provide Wilkes leading up to the next reaffirmation of our accreditation. Dr. Hughes is an associate professor of business law and Dr. Young is an associate professor of mathematics.

Other coordinating committee members include Dr. La Fleur F. Small, associate provost for academic and diversity affairs, and Brian Bogert, director of institutional research. Dr. Small is our accreditation liaison officer and will help guide Wilkes through this process. Members of the coordinating committee will soon begin the task of establishing working group chairs and populating working groups to address MSCHE standards of evidence expectations.

The University's accreditation status was reaffirmed by MSCHE in 2020, following a virtual site visit due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Following the 2020 reaffirmation, Wilkes transitioned to an eight-year accreditation cycle from the previous 10-year cycle. Copies of our Wilkes 2020 Self-Study and Visiting Team's Report can be found on the Wilkes portal under the "Middle States" Tab. Our next self-study will be completed and the next site visit is scheduled for AY 2027-2028.

Please join me in acknowledging and thanking our two new co-chairs and committee members as we begin this vital and meaningful process.

With gratitude,



Greg Cant, President