An Overview of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education
What is the Middle States Commission on Higher Education

- The Middle States Commission on Higher Education is a voluntary, peer-based, non-profit association dedicated to educational excellence and improvement through peer evaluation and accreditation.
In order for students to receive financial aid, institutions must be accredited by Middle States. Middle States is an umbrella accreditor for all of Downstate’s Colleges and Schools.
Middle States is the Overarching Accrediting Body

College of Nursing
College of Health Related Professions
College of Medicine
School of Public Health
School of Graduate Studies
Middle State has 14 Standards:

1. Mission and Goals
2. Planning, Resource Allocation, and Institutional Renewal
3. Institutional Resources
4. Leadership and Governance
5. Administration
6. Integrity
7. Institutional Assessment
14 Standards Continued:

8. Student Admissions and Retention
9. Student Support Services
10. Faculty
11. Educational Offerings
12. General Education
13. Related Educational Activities
14. Assessment of Student Learning
Work Groups

- Work Groups have been established to:
  - Examine our processes and outcomes relative to the *fundamental elements* of each Standard for Accreditation
  - Consider specific questions
  - Utilize specialty accreditation reports, ongoing evaluation procedures and other pertinent data sources
  - Generate a final report
There are 6 Work Groups

They are:

1. Mission, Goals, and Integrity
2. Planning, Resource Allocation, Institutional Renewal; Institutional Resources; and Institutional Assessment
3. Leadership, Governance, and Administration
4. Student Admissions, Retention, and Support Services
5. Faculty
6. Educational Offerings, Related Educational Activities, Assessment of Student Learning
Members of Work Group 1:
Mission, Goals, and Integrity

- **Dr. Pascal J. Imperato** (Chair) (SPH)
  Dean and Distinguished Service Professor, School of Public Health

- **Dr. Pamela Sass** (Co-Chair) (COM)
  Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, College of Medicine
  - Dr. Haseeb Siddiqi (COM)
  - Felix Nwamaghanina (CHRP)
  - Dr. Veronica Arikian (CON)
  - Dr. Ruth Browne (AAI)
  - Dr. Douglas Lazzaro (COM)
  - Johnson Ho (Student, SGS)
  - Leslie Schechter (Staff Person)
Members of Work Group 2: Planning, Resource Allocation, Institutional Renewal; Institutional Resources; and Institutional Assessment

- Dorothy Fyfe (Chair)
  Associate Vice President for Policy and Planning
- Dr. Audrée Bendo (Co-Chair)
  Distinguished Service Professor of Anesthesiology and Director of Neurosurgical Anesthesiology; Anesthesiology Residency Program Director and Vice Chair for Education, College of Medicine
  - John Dooley (IS)
  - Dr. Teresa Miller (CHRP)
  - John Zubrovich (Bio Med)
  - Dr. Lisa Merlin (COM)
  - Dr. Marie Romney (COM)
  - Thomas Dugan (University Police)
  - Martin Deane (Materials Management)
  - Dr. Laura McDermott (Student, SPH)
  - Wolf Lacossiere (Staff Person)
Members of Work Group 3: Leadership, Governance, and Administration

- Dr. Kathleen Powderly (Chair)
  Director, John Conley Division of Medical Ethics and Humanities

- Dr. Joyce Sabari (Co-Chair)
  Associate Professor and Chair of Occupational Therapy, College of Health Related Professions
  - Dr. Nancy Giordano (CON)
  - Dr. Katherine Perkins (SGS)
  - Dr. Todd Sacktor (SGS)
  - Dr. Simone Reynolds (SPH)
  - Dr. Stephen Waite (COM)
  - Anika Daniels-Osaze (Minority Affairs)
  - Dr. Isaac Topor (CHRP)
  - Dr. Margaret Donat (COM)
  - Michael Sangbowale (Student, SGS)
  - Dionne Davis-Lowe (Staff Person)
Members of Work Group 4: Student Admissions, Retention, and Support Services

- **Dr. Jeffrey Putman (Chair)**
  Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students

- **Dr. Judith LaRosa (Co-Chair)**
  Vice Dean and Distinguished Service Professor, Department of Health Policy and Management, School of Public Health
  - Dr. Nellie Bailey (CON)
  - Dr. Rhonda Osborne (COM)
  - Dr. Constance Hill (COM)
  - Dr. Joanne Katz (CHRP)
  - James Newell (Student Affairs)
  - Julio Avalos (Student, CHRP)
  - Danielle Glanzberg (Student, CON)
  - Daniel Ilyayev (Staff Person)
Members of Work Group 5: Faculty

- **Dr. Rauno Joks** (Chair)
  Chief and Program Director, Division of Allergy & Immunology; Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, College of Medicine

- **Dr. Ronnie Lichtman** (Co-Chair)
  Professor and Chair, Midwifery Program, College of Health Related Professions
  - Dr. Richard Winant (Library Administration)
  - Dr. Laila Sedhom (CON)
  - Dr. Magda Alliancin (Minority Affairs)
  - Dr. Deborah Reede (COM)
  - Dr. Ross Clinchy (COM)
  - Dr. Mafuzur Rahman (COM)
  - Sinead Brady (Student, COM)
  - Susan Holman (Student, SPH)
  - Guoda Miriam Burr (Staff Person)
Members of Work Group 6: Educational Offerings, Related Educational Activities, Assessment of Student Learning

- Dr. Daisy Cruz-Richman (Chair)
  Dean and Professor, College of Nursing

- Dr. Madiha Akhtar (Co-Chair)
  Assistant Dean, Student Affairs
  - Dr. Srinivas Kolla (COM)
  - Dr. Richard Kollmar (SGS)
  - Dr. David Wlody (COM)
  - Edeline Mitton (CME)
  - Suzanne Schechter (CHRP)
  - Dr. Lorraine Terracina (Student Affairs)
  - Meg O'Sullivan (Student Life)
  - Sarah Jones (Student, SGS)
  - Judith Ruddock (Staff Person)
Comprehensive Self Study

- **We are doing a Comprehensive Self Study.**
- A *Comprehensive Self Study*, as defined by Middle States, “…enables an institution to appraise every aspect of its programs and services, governing and supportive structures, resources, and educational outcomes in relation to the institution’s missions and goals.”
A Liaison Visit is Integral to the Comprehensive Self Study

- Our liaison is Dr. Ellie A. Fogarty.
- Our liaison visit is scheduled for April 9, 2014 - please save the date on your calendar!
The Purpose of the April 9th Visit

- Helping to identify relevant issues and finding the most appropriate means of addressing them through the Self-Study process
- Acquainting those who will have crucial roles in the Self-Study with the Commission’s expectations and the purposes and procedures of the accreditation process
- Discussing and offering feedback on Downstate’s preliminary plans for Self-Study
- Otherwise assisting with Downstate’s preparations for Self-Study and peer review
SELF-STUDY TIMELINE:

OUTLINES KEY ACTIVITIES OF THE SELF-STUDY PROCESS
## Fall 2013

- Discussion with the President regarding the Self-Study process.
- Two campus members attend the Self-Study Institute.
- Appointment of Chair, co-chairs and members of the Middle States Steering Committee discussed.
- Committee format and support structures selected.
Spring 2014

- Planning discussions commence.
- Members of the Steering Committee selected.
- Decision made to undertake a Comprehensive Self-Study.
- Chair and Co-Chairs selected.
- Standards of Excellence divided between six Work Groups and Work Group chairs, co-chairs, and members appointed.
- Numerous presentations and discussions to engage campus stakeholders.
## Spring 2014 - Continued

- Work Group Charges prepared.
- Institutional information and data sets identified.
- Self-Study design completed and submitted.
- March 17, 2014 Retreat scheduled for Middle States Steering Committee, Executive Bridge Committee.
- March 31, 2014 Town Meeting scheduled. Middle States website goes live.
- April 9, 2014 scheduled visit by Middle States liaison to discuss Self-Study design proposal and meet with key individuals and groups.
## Spring, Summer, and Fall 2014

- Work groups examine MSCHE standards and begin research in response to questions.
- Work groups hold regular Meetings with MSSC; submit rounds of Work Group Reports.
- MSSC Monthly Meetings to analyze findings.
- Middle State Commission selects Chair of the evaluation team.
- Chair of the evaluation team and Downstate agree upon dates for the team visit and Chair’s preliminary visit.
Spring and Summer 2015

- Draft Self-Study completed and distributed for comments.

Fall 2015

- Draft Self-Study posted on web for campus review.
- Draft Self-Study sent to Evaluation Team Chair.
- Downstate prepares Final Draft of Self-Study document.
- President and Downstate’s SUNY Council review Final Draft of Self-Study report.
- Community Feedback, Focus Groups, Town Meetings.
Spring 2016

- Evaluation Team Chairman’s Preliminary Visit.
- Final Self-Study distributed to Site-Visit Team and MSCHE.

March – April 2016

- Evaluation Site-Team visit.
- Scheduled Evaluation Team report to Downstate.
- Downstate response to MSCHE.

June 2016

- Middle States Commission Action.
Thank you for your time and commitment to this important endeavor!

All the information shared here today can be found online.