Section IV: Educational Programs

General Introduction

The education of undergraduate and graduate students is the primary purpose of Angelo State University. The development of the curricula, the competence of the faculty, the accomplishments of the students—all contribute to an environment conducive to learning. Likewise, the University developed the academic Institutional Effectiveness program on the premise that the success of academic endeavors can be measured primarily by the success of the students.

The University relies on a strong faculty to carry out its educational programs. The faculty has always assumed their right to academic freedom both in research and in instruction.

4.1 General Requirements of the Educational Program

All aspects of the educational program must be clearly related to the purpose of the institution.

The University is in compliance.

Every academic program, whether undergraduate or graduate, must identify the part of the Mission Statement that it supports. All primary programs have done so, as have supporting programs such as the International Education Program and courses such as University Studies 1201, Critical Thinking.

The institution must provide a competent faculty, adequate library/learning resources, and appropriate computer resources, instructional materials/equipment and physical facilities.

The University is in compliance.

As established in Section 4.8, the faculty is competent. As established in 5.1, 5.2, and 5.3, the library/learning resources are adequate, as are instructional materials/equipment. Section 6.4 shows that physical facilities are adequate.

The student enrollment and financial resources of an institution must be sufficient to support an effective educational program.

The University is in compliance.
With a steady enrollment of around 6,000 at Angelo State University, the numbers of students are sufficient to support the educational programs. Section 6.3 analyzes financial resources and concludes that they are adequate.

In addition, the institution must ensure appropriate levels of student achievement and equivalent quality of programs regardless of method of instruction or location of program.

The University is in compliance.

Section 4.5 evaluates distance learning programs; the only existing such program does ensure equivalent quality and demonstrates this by using student outcome data. Appendix B of Section 4.2, “Good Fellow Air Force Base (GAFB) Education Program,” details the University’s only off-campus program. The Self-Study Steering Committee confirms that the students at GAFB receive programs equivalent to on-campus programs.