

interoffice

MEMORANDUM

Date: May 30, 2001

To: Members of the UMBC Community

From: Arthur T. Johnson
Provost

Subject: Middle States Periodic Review Report 2001

The Periodic Review Report (PRR), required every five years by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, has been completed, and a copy of the document is posted below. The report was submitted last week to the Middle States Commission, the two external reviewers designated by the Commission, and the Board of Regents of the University System of Maryland (USM). The Middle States reviewers are Dr. Mary Ann P. Swain, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs at the State University of New York at Binghamton, and Dr. Donald Warren, Professor and University Dean, School of Education, at Indiana University at Bloomington. The USM Board of Regents will also designate a reviewer, to be announced soon. We will receive the reviewers' evaluations this fall. I encourage you to read the 2001 PRR in order to bring yourselves up-to-date on UMBC's remarkable accomplishments over the past five years and our current challenges. Hard copies of the report are also available through my office upon request, and an archival version is on file at the Library in Special Collections.

I look forward to discussing the external evaluations with you in the coming academic year as we determine how we, as members of the UMBC community, can best respond to the reviewers' comments and concerns. We will document our responses in the next report, due to Middle States in 2006. This report, a Self-Study, is a more extensive version of the PRR, and the process of preparing it will begin in late 2003.

Both the PRR and Self-Study processes, according to the Middle States Commissioners, are meant to be processes in which all people on a campus feel they have a share in reflecting and reporting on their institution. I am gratified by the extent to which I have seen this accomplished here at UMBC in the past two years as the attached PRR was prepared. A large number of faculty, staff, and students provided responses to drafts of the report and provided generous technical and administrative assistance to the Middle States Co-chairs, Dr. Diane M. Lee and Dr. Kathy O'Dell. I thank you for your invaluable contributions. The [Middle States Periodic Review Report 2001](#) is an example of the ways in which we are actively engaged in the theme of this PRR - "Implementing UMBC's Vision."