



Greetings from the MSCHE Standard II Group! As you know, Centenary University has embarked on its Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) Self-Study. The Self-Study is completed every 8-10 years and serves as an affirmation of the achievement of university goals through a self-regulated and peer reviewed process. There are 7 (seven) MSCHE standards the University will address as part of the Self-Study.

Standard II addresses **Ethics and Integrity** and has nine (9) criteria and numerous sub-criteria that will be addressed. The purpose for this Standard is as follows:



“Ethics and integrity are central, indispensable, and defining hallmarks of effective higher education institutions. In all activities, whether internal or external, an institution must be faithful to its mission, honor its contracts and commitments, adhere to its policies, and represent itself truthfully.”

Standard II is led by Dr. Lynn Taylor, Professor of Equine Science. Standard II is important to Centenary because it provides an opportunity to review much of how we operate and how we support our students, faculty, staff, and University community by being ethical and honest in our practices.

Standard II examines academic and intellectual freedom, as well as how we show/express respect for one another in our community. The Standard also outlines how grievances and conflicts of interest are handled, how to demonstrate honesty in what we promote and promise to offer, and how to make education affordable for students with access and information about affordability, grants and scholarships.

This Standard also focuses on our hiring and firing practices, the recruiting and admission process, as well as our communication, both internally and externally. Finally, Standard II outlines the requirements for how we report back to Middle States. This is important to document and gain approval on any substantive changes in what we do and/or what we offer. It is within this Standard that we gather and report back information on institution-wide assessments, graduation, retention, certification and licensure or licensing board pass rates. This Standard supports continual review and assessment, as well as how we function between self-study timeframes.



For more information on the MSCHE, visit <https://www.msche.org/>