They came. They saw. We conquered. At least that is what it felt like after the Middle States Evaluation Team visited Shippensburg University April 5-8, 2009. The visit was the culmination of over two years of preparation by the university community. Dr. Dennis Hefner (President, SUNY-Fredonia), chair, and the rest of the Evaluation Team spent two days on campus reviewing materials carefully collected for them as well as talking with various individuals and campus groups. On the third day of their visit, Dr. Hefner gave a preliminary report of the Team’s findings to the university. The group assembled was visibly pleased when he commented, “it goes without saying” that Shippensburg University clearly met all 14 Standards of Excellence. With more and more schools requiring follow-ups of one nature or another, Shippensburg University is one of only a handful schools that met all 14 standards up front.

This success is due to campus-wide efforts. Congratulations – and THANK YOU - to everyone who helped Shippensburg reach this accomplishment!
Shippensburg University was fortunate enough to have the following faculty members join their ranks.

**Dr. Christopher Carlton** – Assistant Professor in Counseling Services. Dr. Carlton received his M.A. from Towson University, Towson, MD, and his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Brigham Young University, Provo, UT. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Dr. Carlton was in University Counseling Services at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, MD.

**Ms. Becky Fitz** – Assistant Director of Sports Medicine. Ms. Fitz received her M.S. in Psychology from Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, PA. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Ms. Fitz was an Assistant Athletic Trainer and Instructor at Catawba College, Salisbury, NC.

**Mr. Wes Mallicone** – Director of Sports Medicine. Mr. Mallicone received his M.S. in Psychology from Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, Shippensburg, PA. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Mr. Mallicone was an assistant athletic trainer with the Barcelona Dragons of NFL Europa.

**Ms. Carrie Michaels** – Assistant Athletics Director & Senior Woman Administrator. Ms. Michaels received her MS in Sport Management at Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania, Slippery Rock, PA. Prior to this assignment, Ms. Michaels served as the Interim Coordinator of Academic Support Services for Student Athletes at Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, Shippensburg, PA.

**Mr. Joe Theis** – Associate Director of Sports Medicine. Mr. Theis received his M.S. in Rehabilitation Science from the Clarion University of Pennsylvania, Clarion, PA. Prior to coming to Shippensburg, Mr. Theis was an adjunct faculty member at California University of Pennsylvania, California, PA.

**Welcome Aboard!**

They did it! Again! For the fifth year in a row, the Shippensburg University Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) team won the SIFE USA Regional Competition. They have won the competition every year since their team formed four and a half years ago.

SIFE is an international non-profit organization whose members work with local community members and business owners to create economic opportunities. The twenty-one team members of SU’s SIFE team organized thirteen projects during the academic year, including a drive to supply laptops to Anh Linhs Free School in Vietnam.

Next up for the team: the SIFE USA National Competition, held this year in Philadelphia, PA, from May 10-12.
On April 7, 2009, the Multi-Purpose Room in the Ceddia Union Building was transformed into a showcase of student research. Both undergraduate and graduate students from a wide variety of majors and programs displayed their work during the Student Research Program Recognition Day.

"The opportunity to work alongside faculty in the Geography/Earth Science Dept was a major part of my decision to pursue my master's degree at Shippensburg University," commented James Manuel, a graduate student in the Geography/Earth Science department who was presenting his work, Estimating the impact of population growth on ecosystem services in Albemarle County and Charlottesville, VA. "As an extension of the classroom, participating in research with Dr. Claire Jantz has been invaluable to my understanding of the rigors of professional research. The one-on-one interactions were an ideal learning environment. Instead of getting a letter grade at the end of the project, we got a presentation at a national conference and a peer-reviewed article. Not only was I "learning by doing," I was producing high-quality research at a professional level. Unfortunately with many student projects, the results end up sitting in a box in a closet; this research will be disseminated to our peers via an article, not to mention it helps me to begin building my CV."

The Student Research Program Recognition Day is coordinated by the Institute for Public Service. Dr. Tony Winter, Interim Executive Director of the Institute, was pleased with the event. "The 2009 Student Research Program Recognition Day was a tremendous success thanks to the outstanding work that was on display from our students and the excellent support provided by our faculty sponsors," he said. "This year’s program’s success was reinforced by Dr. Dennis Hefner, the chair of our Middle States Accreditation Review Team, when he cited at the Middle States exit report how impressed he was by the quality of the student research projects and how engaged our faculty were with our student researchers."

Congratulations to the students and their faculty advisors!
And Now A Word From Our Sponsor….
Barbara G. Lyman, Provost & Senior VP for Academic Affairs

“Beware of rashness, but with energy and sleepless vigilance go forward and give us victories.”
- Abraham Lincoln

The end of the academic year always presents an excellent opportunity to reflect on the year’s successes as well as look forward to the opportunities awaiting us. This year is certainly no exception.

Shippensburg University’s excellent performance in the Middle States review process was undoubtedly a highlight of the year. Though I have had the opportunity to thank personally many of the people involved in the process, I would like to reiterate my thanks to the entire campus community – it took the effort of everybody to make Shippensburg shine so brightly!

While we can revel in the Middle States success, our purpose does not end with it. Our next major undertaking is the development of an Academic Master Plan. This plan will guide the university over the next five years in developing, prioritizing, implementing, and evaluating new academic programs while maintaining and enhancing the quality and productivity of existing programs.

Once completed, the Academic Master Plan will be coordinated with the recently-completed Facilities Master Plan; the two documents will serve as guides as Shippensburg University moves forward with its mission to offer top-quality, student-focused educational experiences.