A committee ("Rule 8 Committee") representing the member schools of the AICUO (Ohio private colleges) recently submitted a set of recommendations to the Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents, at his request. Although not officially approved, the recommendations have been received and are likely to be supported. If so, clearer expectations for academic program delivery will exist for Ohio's private colleges. It will be essential for Lake Erie College to carefully review and develop a plan to meet all the noted expectations in the committee recommendations. A preliminary review of some of the recommendations suggests a need for changes or upgrading of a variety of services and program delivery, as well as clearer learning outcome alignment with state standards. Our internal review should include the identification of key areas of concern, a plan for compliance with basic expectations, and an analysis of resource needs to meet the recommendations of the committee, as well as a time-line for the compliance plan.

Authorization by the Board of Regents is required for operation of any accredited institution in the state. Although a final approved plan (or set of recommendations) has not yet been reviewed by the college, any compliance expectations must be taken seriously and identification of responsible parties, having a structured approach for meeting such expectations, and setting a reasonable time-line is most likely to produce positive results.

Many of the anticipated expectations will directly effect Academic Affairs. However, the resources to meet any necessary upgrades will be dependent on the budget developed by Administration and Finance.

Learning outcomes (and related assessment), course/program delivery, better alignment with other institutions in Ohio (for ease in transferability), and general upgrades in academic programs.

Although the review and planning may only take a few months, it is likely that any major implementation (and actual changes) will take much more time.

Once key expectations are identified and prioritized, meeting those expectations (at given levels) within a reasonable time-line will be tracked by the Vice President of Academic Affairs. Some of the expectations may be incorporated into the Program Review or Assessment Review processes.
Ultimately, the evidence of meeting the expectations (as prioritized) within the developed time-line will be the measure of compliance.