

# Visiting Committee Orientation



Seventh-day  
Adventist® Church

SOUTHWESTERN UNION



## Purpose of Accreditation

- Assists each school in appraising the total program to determine the level to which the purposes and functions outlined in its statement of philosophy and goals for student learning are accomplished, and the extent to which these purposes and functions address the standards for accreditation.
- Involves the administration, faculty, staff, local governing board, constituency, students, and parents in a meaningful evaluation of the program.



## **Purpose of Accreditation cont.**

- Provides an independent review of the Self-study report.
- Provides the basis for a Continuous School Improvement Plan.
- Provides the basis for determining accreditation status.
- Assists in providing external validation with regional and/or national accrediting associations.



# Accreditation Standards

Standards are ideals for quality educational programs that are specific, attainable, and measurable. They describe an effective program that leads to continuous school improvement and results in improved student learning.



## NAD Accreditation Standards

### **Purpose**

- Philosophy and Mission

### **Plan**

- Curriculum
- Instruction
- Assessment
- School Environment

### **Practice**

- Sustainable Leadership
- Professional Learning
- Communication and Collaboration

### **Product**

- School Improvement



## Visiting Committee Responsibilities

1. Reading, analyzing, and validating the Self-study Report on Accreditrac, including the Continuous School Improvement Plan, to determine the extent to which the school is accomplishing its mission and meeting the accreditation standards. This is accomplished by observing the school in operation; visiting classes; interviewing administrators, teachers, students, and others; as well as reviewing additional evidence provided by the school.



## Visiting Committee Responsibilities cont.

2. Preparing a report that commends the school for its areas of strength, validates school improvement plans, and recommends specific actions to support school improvement.
3. Recommending a status of accreditation to the NAD Commission on Accreditation that is based on the Self-study Report and on-site findings.



# Continuous School Improvement Plans

**Goal #1: Mission**—Reinforce the school mission for learners through the integration of the Adventist worldview across the curriculum.

**AAA Standard(s) Addressed:** 1—Philosophy and Mission

**School-wide Learning Outcomes Addressed:** [reference here your school's applicable learning outcomes, core values, etc.](#)

**Rationale:** In response to the perception and school processes data (parent, teacher, and student surveys; instructional programs; etc.), the school will articulate and integrate the Adventist worldview in each content area so that the mission of Adventist education is visible across the curriculum. It is critical that the school remains mission focused to fulfill the aim of Adventist education for learners.

**Objectives:** In order to support the goal, the following objectives will be addressed:

- Provide professional learning so 100% of teaching faculty can articulate with proficiency the Adventist worldview in terms of four concepts—Creation, Fall, Redemption, Re-creation.
- Engage 100% of teaching faculty in at least one PLC to apply the Adventist worldview concepts to the development of one unit of study, particularly in relation to the creation of Faith Connections, Essential Questions, Big Ideas, and Unit Assessments.
- After implementation of the units, use the unit summative assessments to determine if 100% of students can articulate the Adventist worldview with proficiency in the context of the unit contents.

Objectives	Measurement	Tasks (Action Steps)	Person(s) Responsible	Resources	Timeline	Progress Reports
Provide professional learning so 100% of teaching faculty can articulate with proficiency the Adventist worldview in terms of four concepts—Creation, Fall, Redemption, Re-creation.	Attendance record  Faculty written summaries of the Adventist Worldview concepts	Schedule 2-day professional learning session that focuses on the Adventist worldview	Principal	Presenter  NAD "The Core of Adventist Education Curriculum"  <i>Total Truth</i> by Nancy Pearcey  Rubric for faculty summaries of Adventist worldview	Pre-session August 20____  Review as needed	<i>Since the CSI Plan is a fluid document, this column is for the leadership team to record progress toward the goal and report to stakeholders as needed. (i.e., professional learning completed, mo/yr.)</i>
Engage 100% of teaching faculty in at least one PLC to apply the Adventist worldview concepts to	Attendance record  Units of study	Utilize PLC meetings to create units of study that integrate the Adventist Worldview	Teaching Faculty  Principal	Time for weekly PLC  Sample units	Begin Fall 20____  Ongoing	

May be:

- Approved as written.
- Recommended for revision.
- Recommended for development.
- Rejected.



# Commendations

Based on:

- Specific and observable strengths of the school program.
- Innovative programs that meet distinctive needs.
- Significant improvements in the school program or facilities.
- Aspects of the program that are deemed outstanding by the committee.
- Aspects of the program that are MORE than you would ordinarily expect to find.



# Recommendations



Recommendation

Based on:

- Standards that are not adequately addressed.
- Continuous School Improvement Plans that are inadequate or lacking.
- Concerns that the Visiting Committee discovered during the visit.



## Remember . . .

- Refer to the Visiting Committee Handbook for the following:
  - Schedule
  - Committee Assignments
  - General Guidelines
  - Tips on Writing
  - Suggested Evidences
  - Sample Response
  - Sample CSI Plan
  - Sample Interview Questions
  - Status Criteria



## Remember . . .

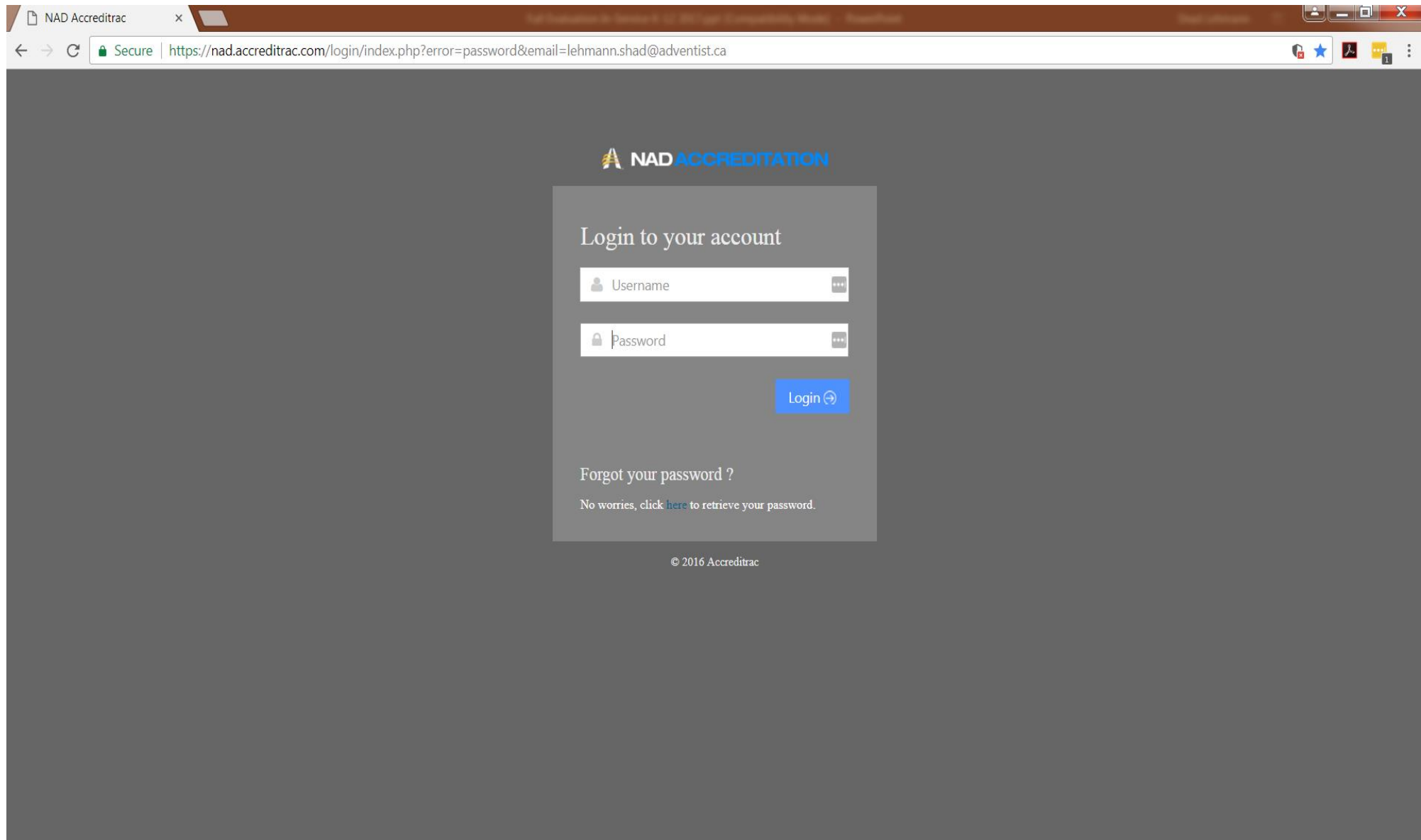
- After reading the Self-study Report in its entirety, and the responses to your assigned standards, begin reviewing evidences and writing responses/ recommendations in Accreditrac for each standard you have been assigned.



## **Accreditrac**

Accreditrac is the online platform for NAD accreditation documents. A tutorial is available on the link below.

<https://nad.accreditrac.com>





# Questions?