

Open Forum on Criteria 1 & 2  
HLC Preparation - Oct. 30, 2020

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### ATU MISSION STATEMENT

Arkansas Tech University is dedicated to **student success, access, and excellence** as a **responsive campus community** providing opportunities for **progressive intellectual development and civic engagement**. Embracing and expanding upon its **technological traditions**, Tech inspires and empowers members of the community to achieve their goals while striving for the betterment of Arkansas, the nation, and the world.

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### General

- What do you know about accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission?
- Have you read ATU's Assurance Argument?
- What distinguishes ATU from neighboring institutions?
- What are ATU's greatest strengths?
- What are the biggest challenges facing ATU?
- What is it like to work at ATU? How is morale on campus?
- Do you believe academics are the top priority at ATU? Why or why not?
- Describe any campus processes that could be improved or made more efficient.
- What kind of changes are taking place at ATU? Do you see these as positive or not?

**Criterion 1:** The institution's mission is clear and articulated publicly; it guides the institution's operations.

- Do you know the ATU mission statement? How would you describe it?
- How does ATU serve the public good?
- Can you give an example of how the university's mission guides institutional operations?
- How does your department support the mission of ATU?
- How were you involved in the strategic planning process at ATU?
- What are ATU's current strategic planning priorities?
- Do you believe ATU has made progress toward achieving the identified strategic goals?
- Are budget decisions made based on the strategic goals of the university?
- What do you believe have been the major accomplishments of ATU over the last ten years?
- How do ATU's processes/activities reflect attention to human diversity?
- How are the academic programs you offer consistent with the mission?
- How does ATU support the community at large?
- Do you support the mission of ATU?
- Are you familiar with the core values of ATU?
- Do you support the core values of ATU?

- How does ATU support students who meet the admissions criteria?
- How does ATU support students who are underprepared or struggling?

**Criterion 2:** The institution acts with integrity; its conduct is ethical and responsible.

- What is it like to be a staff member at ATU?
- Is ATU committed to equal educational/employment opportunities?
- Describe the campus climate at ATU.
- What opportunities do you have for professional development?
- How are staff evaluated at ATU? What is your impression of the evaluation process?
- How would you describe the shared governance process at ATU? Do you think staff have sufficient input into decisions that affect them?
- Have ATU administrators established a culture of trust within the university?
- Do units across campus work collaboratively? How well does this work? What might be improved?
- Do you feel the work you do is valued by administration? By faculty? By other staff members? By students?
- Do you understand the FERPA policy? Is ATU committed to equal educational/employment opportunities?
- Describe the campus climate at ATU.
- Describe shared governance and how faculty participate in decision-making at different levels of the university (department, college, institution)
- For some common faculty issues (workload, salary, sabbatical leaves, etc.), what works well and what needs to be improved?
- Are you satisfied with the support you receive to enhance your teaching?
- Are you satisfied with the support you receive to enhance your scholarship?
- Have ATU administrators established a culture of trust within the university?
- Do you understand the FERPA policy?
- Does ATU have academic and financial requirements which are presented clearly and completely to students and the public?
- What are the major responsibilities of the Board of Trustees?
- Who is responsible for curriculum additions/deletions/modifications?
- Who is responsible for academic policy creation/modification?
- Do you, faculty, believe you have academic freedom in your teaching?
- Does ATU have policies and procedures in place to address ethical conduct in research for both faculty and students?