



THE  
UNIVERSITY COUNCIL  
OF JAMAICA

*"Assuring Quality in Higher Education"*

# Research and Development a Catalyst for Improved Quality Assurance and Practice in Distance Education

An Exploration of Criterion 9: UCJ Standards for Distance  
Education

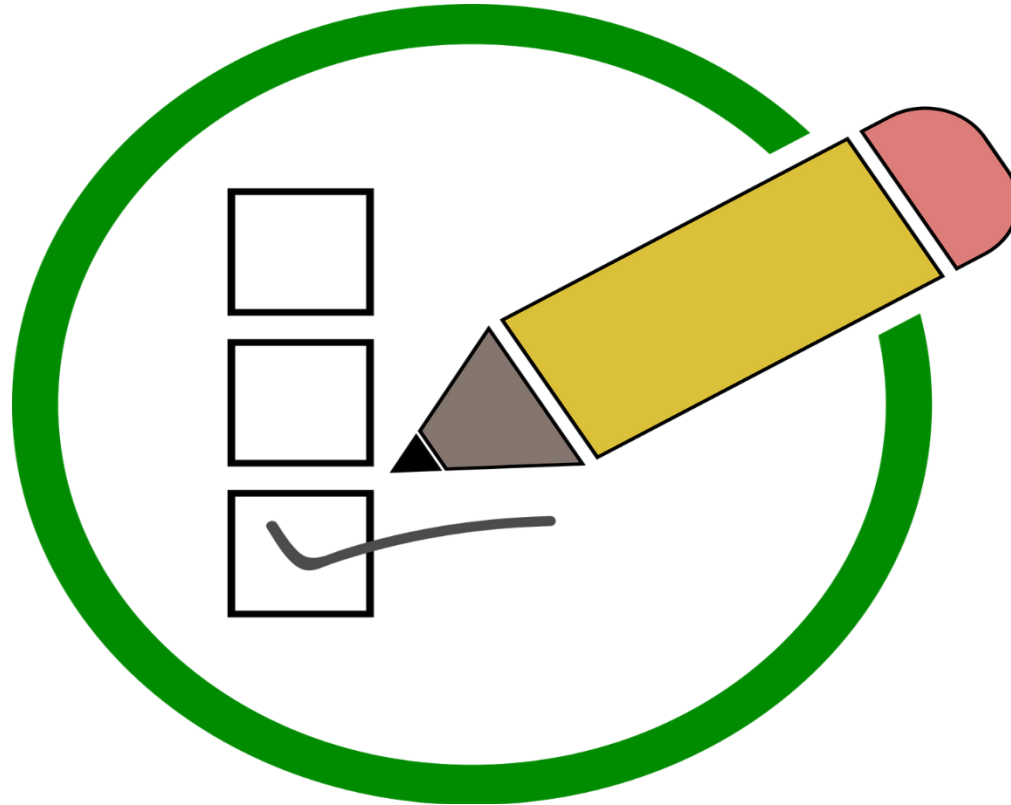
University Council of Jamaica  
16<sup>th</sup> Annual Quality Assurance in Higher  
Education Week

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# Session Focus

- We will discuss Criterion 9 and report on priority issues, expectations, and implications for revising the national quality standards on distance education.

# What do you know about R&D?



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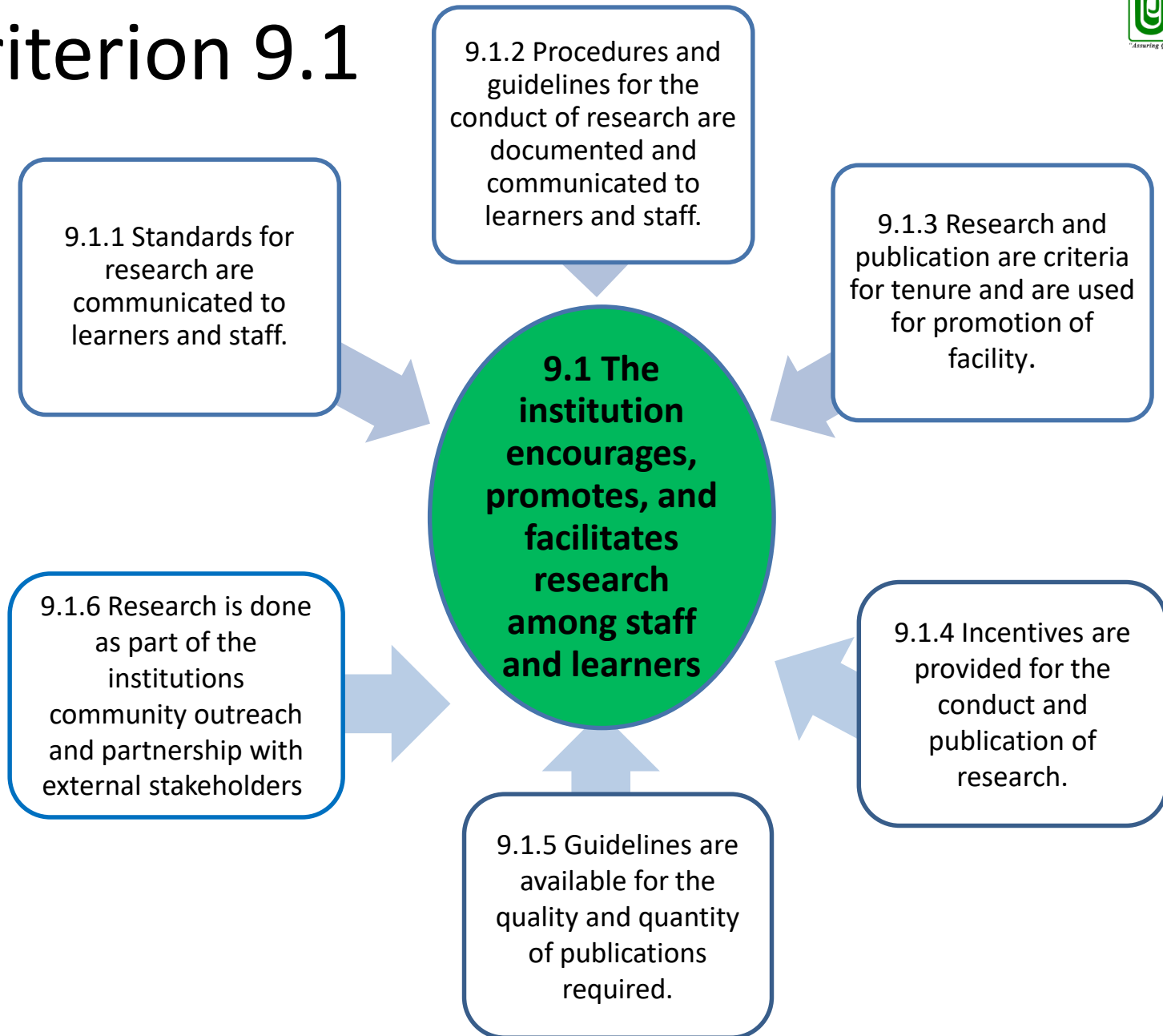
# Criterion 9.1

## Scope

The institution collects data on learners; their needs and learning and achievement, for use in the review of programmes and courses; and the provision of support services.

A well formulated plan guides the management and operations of the institution, with emphasis on satisfying the needs of stakeholders and meeting high standards of quality.

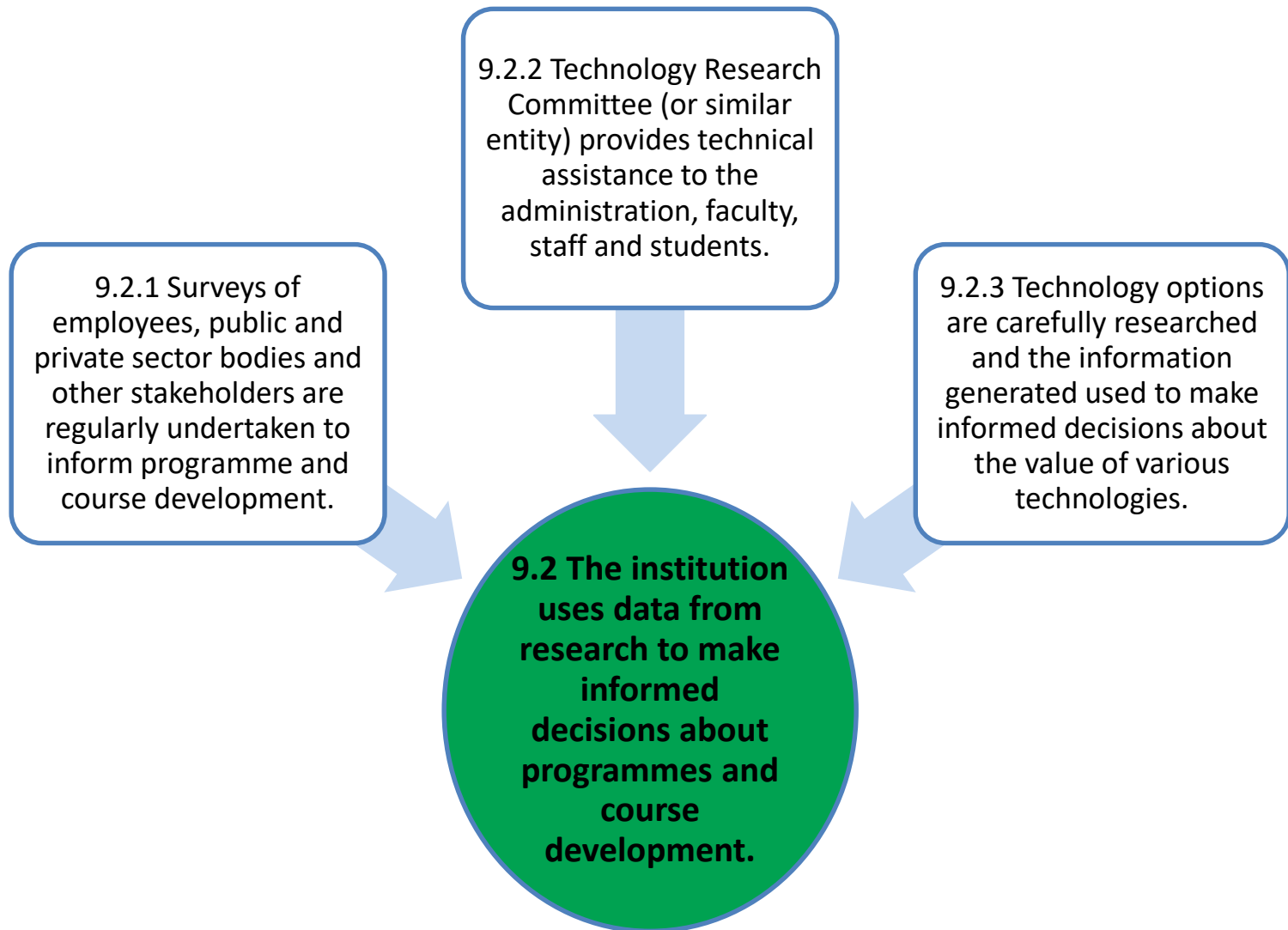
# Criterion 9.1



# Criterion 9.1 - Indicators

- Research committee handbook/guidelines for research
- Annual reports of research output (submitted by staff)

# Criterion 9.2

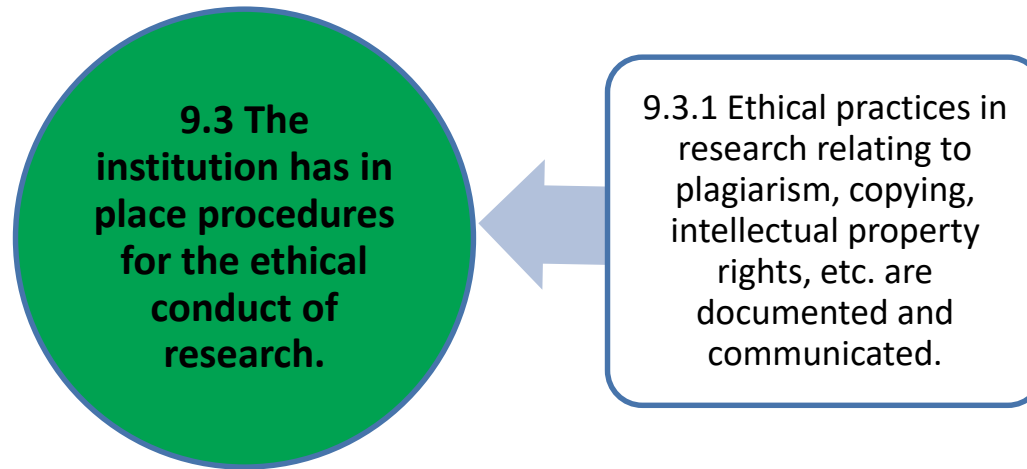


# Criterion 9.2 - Indicators

- Survey reports are available and their use reported in curriculum committee minutes
- Policy statements as well as discussions taken re technology in use, reflect the involvement and recommendations of the technology research committee



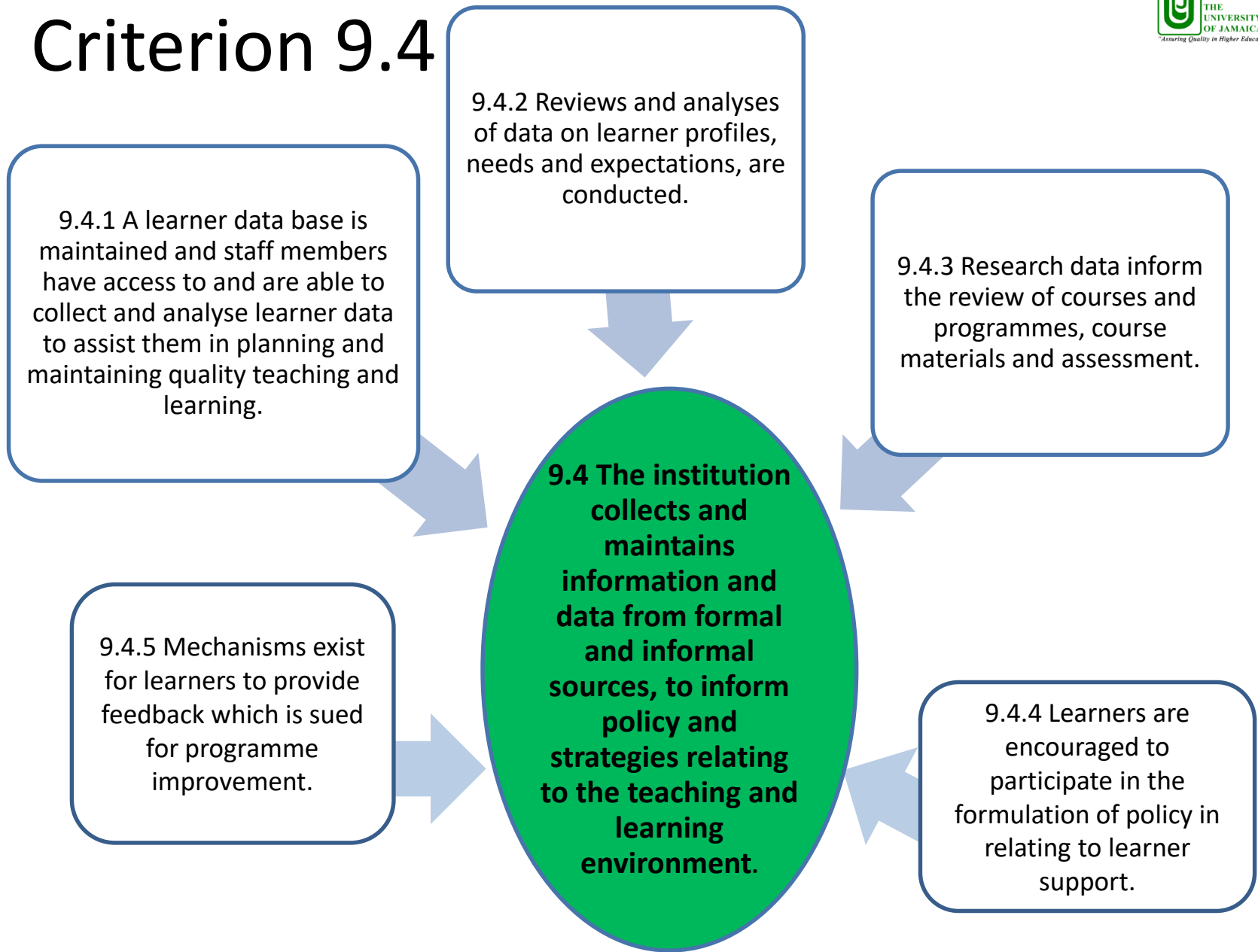
# Criterion 9.3



# Criterion 9.3 - Indicator

- Handbook/guidelines for research

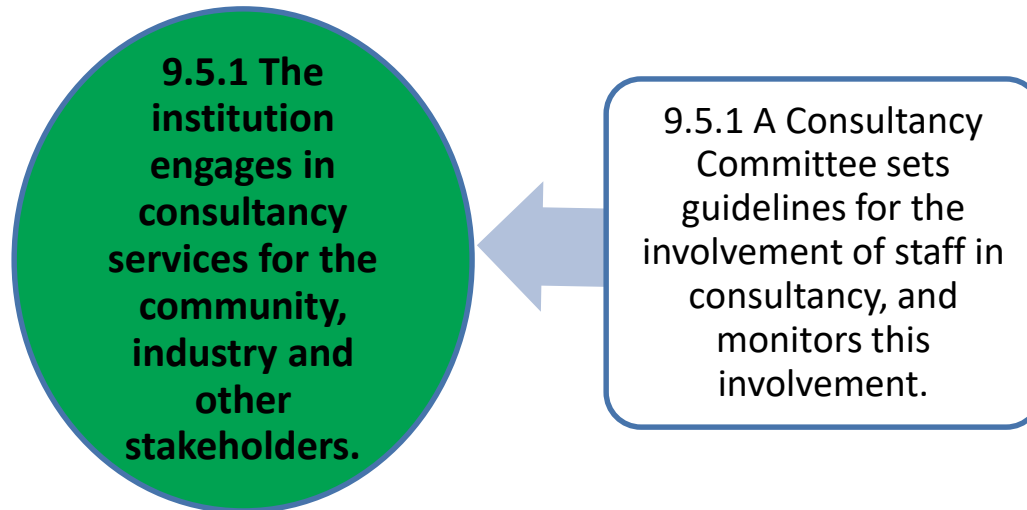
# Criterion 9.4



# Criterion 9.4 - Indicators

- Student database exist and can be scrutinized. Protocols regarding access are developed and documented.
- Minutes of relevant meetings (at the unit/department/school/faculty and organizational (e.g. university) level indicate use of the available data in planning, curriculum review and assessment.
- Learners are represented on policy and decision making bodies.
- Learners complete evaluation forms which are used in programme and course review.

# Criterion 9.5



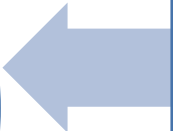
# Criterion 9.5 - Indicators

- Minutes of the Consultancy Committee meeting (reflecting appropriate practices).
- Reports (examples of research in the community).

# Criterion 9.6

**9.6 The institution conducts research to measure and advise on recommendations for improvements in:**

- (a) efficiency of operations and services**
- (b) achievement of stated goals and objectives.**



9.6.1 Systems are in place to conduct institutional research geared towards producing data to enhance the operations of the institution and to ensure the attainment of objectives.

# Criterion 9.6 - Indicators

- Reports of institutional research, information on how research is used.



# Breakout Room Activity

- Discuss the assigned criterion with a view to answering the following question:
  - What gap/s if any exist in the criterion as presented?
  - What implication/s does this gap have for revising Criterion 9 in the UCJ Standards for Distance Education?

# Breakout Room Debrief

- Each group will report the outcome of their dialogue in the main room.

# What next?

- Summary and session wrap up.

# Reference

- UCI (2014) Standards for Distance Education Policy Document. The University Council of Jamaica.