

What is Accreditation & Why Should I Care?

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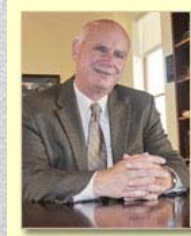
What do you know about Accreditation ?





Which of the following is true of Accreditation?


- A.** It compares colleges to best practices in education.
- B.** It punishes colleges based upon audits.
- C.** It grades and ranks colleges based on standards.
- D.** It guarantees the quality of education to the federal government and the public.
- E.** I don't know, ask Bill!



Who Participates In Accreditation Processes?

- A. Faculty**
- B. Administration**
- C. Classified Staff**
- D. Students**
- E. All of the above**



- 
- Purpose of accreditation
 - Importance of accreditation
 - Your role in ongoing accreditation work
 - Your role in accreditation reporting
 - Mt. SAC accreditation next steps

Overview



National Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI)
(Authorized by Higher Education Opportunity Act to *review regional accrediting agencies*)



US. Department of Education
(*Grants recognition to regional accrediting agencies*
based on recommendation from NACIQI)



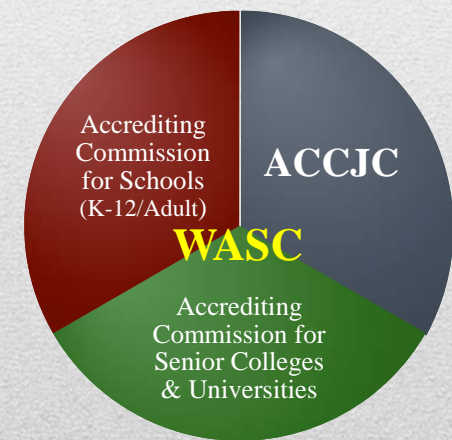
Regional Accrediting Agencies (7)
(*Grant accreditations to schools and colleges*)



U.S. Accreditation Structure

Commission for Community and Junior College (ACCJC)

- A commission within the regional accrediting agency, Western Association of Schools & Colleges (WASC)
- Accredits associate degree granting institutions
- Establishes *eligibility requirements, Accreditation Standards, commission policies,* and *procedures* to assess institutional quality



Our Accrediting Commission

Only accredited institutions qualify for financial aid (Title IV funds) and federal/state grants!

For Students

- Vital for international mobility
 - ✓ Transfer of credit
 - ✓ Legitimacy of degrees and qualifications

For the Public

- Assures legitimacy of institution and confidence in the quality of programs and student services
- Promotes accountability through ongoing external evaluation

What Accreditation Does

A. 8%

B. 28%

C. 48%

D. 68%



*\$4,461 was
the average
grant amount
per Mt. SAC
student in
2011*

What % of 1st time, full-time students at Mt. SAC received financial aid in 2011 ?

What Does It Mean If A College Gets A Negative Accreditation Report?

- A.** The college loses federal funding
- B.** The college loses student financial aid
- C.** The college loses the ability to transfer courses
- D.** The college can no longer operate
- E.** It depends on the negative report

STUDENTS NEED MT. SAC !!

“ The poorly run City College of San Francisco has eight months to prove it should stay in business, yet must **make preparations for closure**”...

San Francisco Chronicle

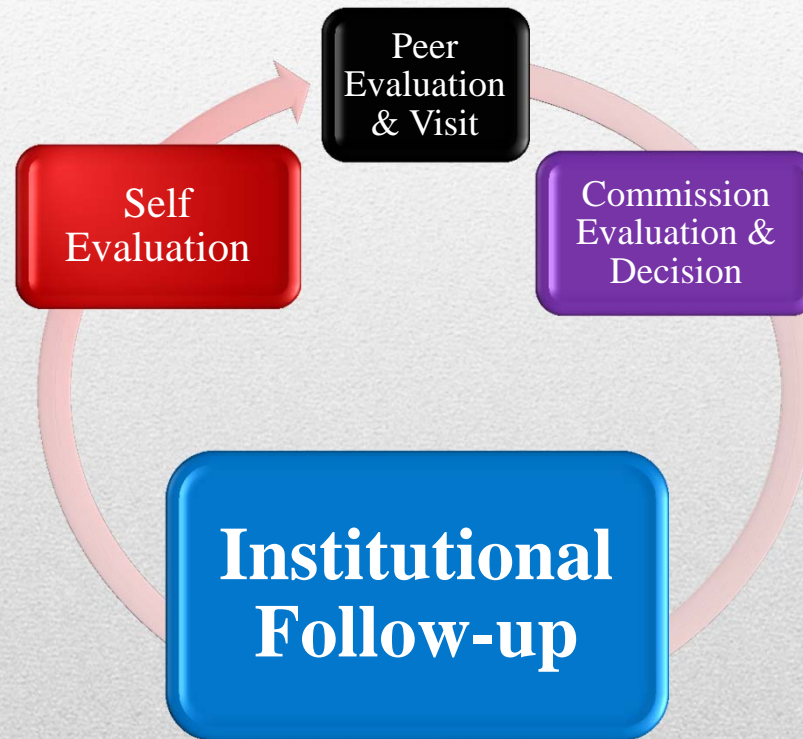
Mt. SAC ACCJC 2010 Evaluation Report

“**The team commends the college** for excellent and innovative programs that recruit, orient, and prepare students for college success.....”

Why Should I Care ?

FEAR NOT !!

We spend the majority of our time in **Institutional “Follow-up...
Ongoing, daily accreditation work !**



Continuous Accreditation Process

An institution-wide dialogue must be at the heart of the self-evaluation process for the college community to gain a perspective of the institution.

Accreditation Reference Handbook



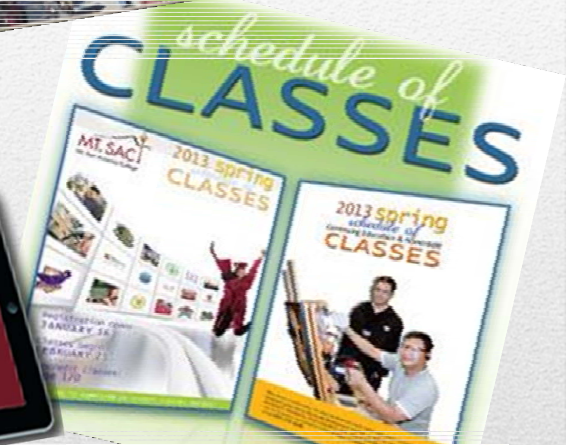
"Accreditation is a part of all that we do, but Classified can sometimes feel intimidated or overwhelmed when sitting on an accreditation committee. No matter how uncomfortable we may be, we need to ask questions, share our thoughts, and learn about how to be involved in the accreditation process so that we are an active voice at the college."

*- Laura Martinez
President CSEA Chapter 262*

Broad Participation is Key

“Everyone wants to know, how do we play a role in accreditation? We hear that faculty are doing this work, but how do we contribute to student success? Classified work in so many different areas. There is not always an awareness that in doing our jobs, we are doing the work of accreditation. But the truth is we cannot achieve accreditation or function without Facility Classified Professionals. Buildings, campus, athletics, and the environment students come to and we work in are due to the work of Classified professionals from facilities.”

- Juan (Johnny) Jauregui
President CSEA Chapter 651



Partners in Student Success



How does your work help the college meet the Accreditation Standards?

Your Role in Ongoing Accreditation Work

Standard I: Institutional Mission & Effectiveness

- Annual PIE Process
- Use mission statement for planning & decision-making
- Academic Senate
- Committees (IEC, PAC)

Standard II: Student Learning Programs & Services

- Teaching
- Assessing & evaluating SLOs
- Curriculum design
- Counseling & information literacy support
- Support Services

Standard III: Resources

- Hiring committees
- Facilities Advisory
- ITAC
- Professional Development committees
- Budget Committee
- President's Advisory Council

Standard IV: Leadership & Governance

- All Committee work
- Classified Senate
- CSEA
- Academic Mutual Agreement Council
- President's Advisory Council

Ongoing Work of the College



What Standard Or Standards Should Classified Be Involved In?

- A. Standard I
- B. Standard II
- C. Standard III
- D. Standard II and IV
- E. Standards I-IV

“I viewed the process as somewhat of a reflection piece. It allowed me to really take a step back and review what it is that I do, see how effectively I do it, and see if there are any areas I can improve in. Being involved in the accreditation process gave me greater insight and perspective into my work. From a qualitative perspective it allowed me to better understand our students and their needs and aspirations. Quantitatively, I was also able to better comprehend the trends and data.”
- Deejay Santiago
President Classified Senate

The benefits of being involved in accreditation....

- Awareness of the college
- Pride in our excellence
- Increased familiarity with other campus programs and pride in their accomplishments

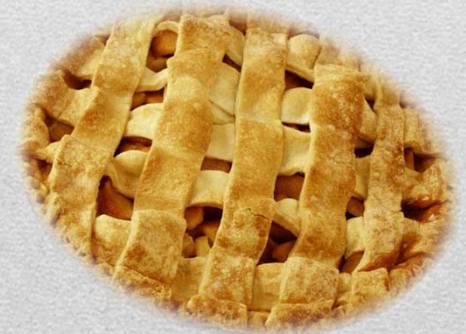
Continuing Education Office Staff Feedback on Accreditation & Inclusion, 1/17/13

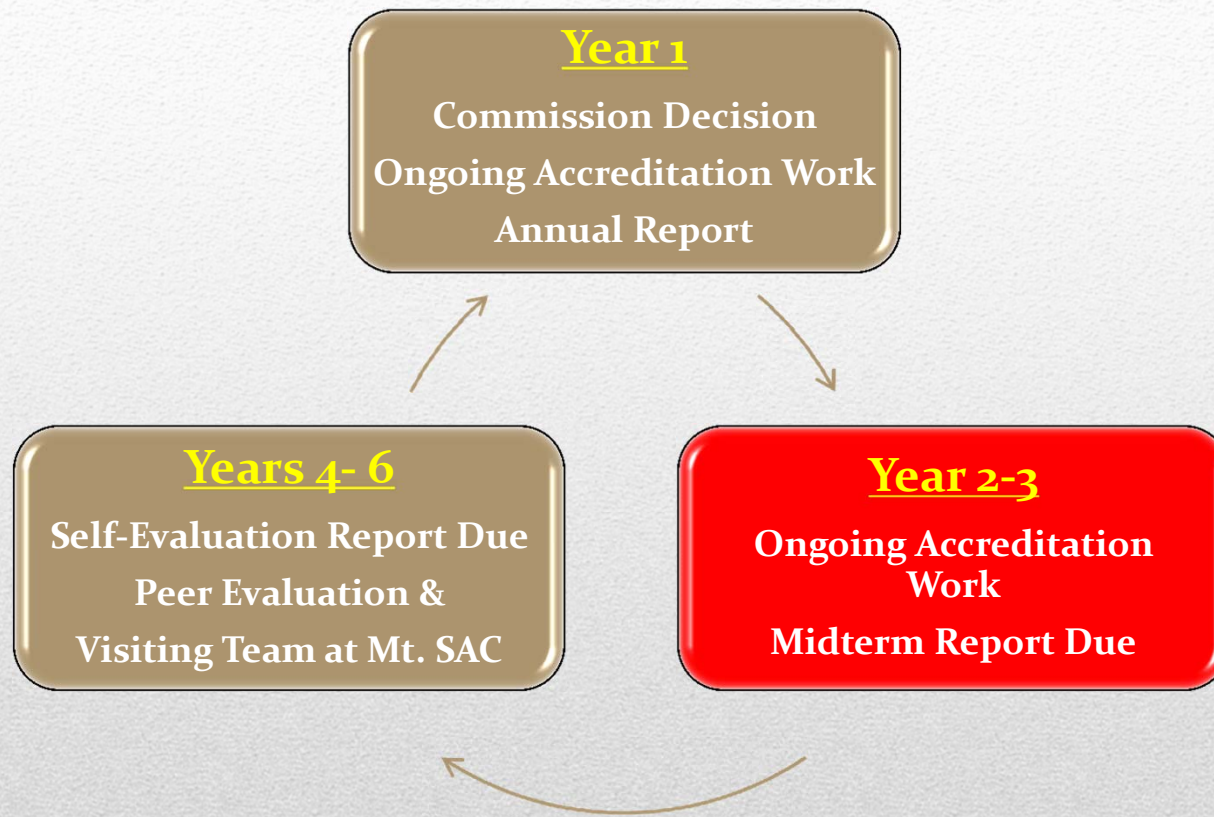
When Accreditation Works



What Role Do Classified Play In The Accreditation Process?

- A.** Ongoing, daily work of supporting teaching and learning
- B.** Participation in department planning (PIE)
- C.** Validating the accuracy of reports to the student perspective
- D.** Representation on committees
- E.** All of the above





Accreditation Reporting Cycle

Already Complete

- ✓ Departments, Committees, CSEA, Cabinet, & Faculty Association all provided input into the Midterm Report Update document




In Process

- ✓ Accreditation Leadership Ad Hoc Group is using the Midterm Report Update document to draft the Midterm Report

Next Steps

- ✓ In spring the Midterm Report will be sent to campus community for review and input
- ✓ Seek Board approval before end of June 2013

Where are We Now ?

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- Post Accreditation Reflection
 - Academic Senate Accreditation Taskforce
 - Classified Communication Summit
 - Managers Survey

Lessons Learned



- AS & PAC reviewing proposal for ongoing Accreditation Steering Committee
- Effort for inclusion of all stakeholders through accreditation training & preparation

What's the Next Step ?



Questions & Answers



U.S. Department of Education

<http://www2.ed.gov/admins/finaid/accred/index.html>

Council for Higher Education Accreditation

http://www.chea.org/pdf/fund_accred_20ques_02.pdf

Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges

<http://www.accjc.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/09/Feb-2011-special-edition.pdf>

Academic Senate for California Community Colleges

<http://asccc.org/directory/accreditation-committee>

Mt. SAC Accreditation websites

➤ College ACCJC Accreditation

<http://www.mtsac.edu/administration/accreditation/>

➤ Continuing Education ACS Accreditation

<http://www.mtsac.edu/instruction/continuinged/accreditation/index.html>

Resources



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This presentation will be available on the
Mt. SAC Accreditation webpage:

<http://www.mtsac.edu/administration/accreditation/index.html>
