

What is Accreditation & Why Should I Care?

Presented by:

Michelle Grimes-Hillman, Professor of Psychology
Barbara McNeice-Stallard, Director of Research & IE
Virginia Burley, Vice President of Instruction
Lianne Greenlee, Project Administrator

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What do you know about Accreditation ?





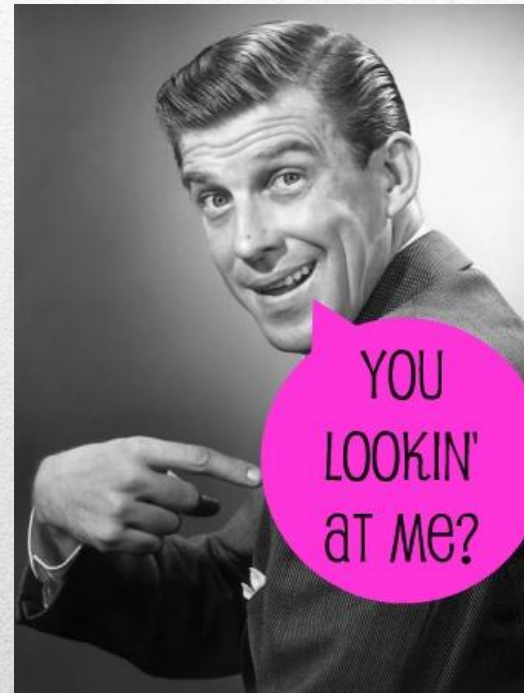
Which of the following is true of Accreditation?

- 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

“The ACCJC accreditation process verifies that Mt. SAC meets a minimum standard. As one of California's premier community colleges, we are in the enviable position of generally exceeding the standards. Our previous work has resulted in our having a full six year accreditation and in fact we are being asked for advice from other colleges with regard to accreditation matters. Although the ACCJC standards continue to change, we have a college culture that can adapt to those changes.”

-Eric Kaljumagi
President, Academic Senate





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)

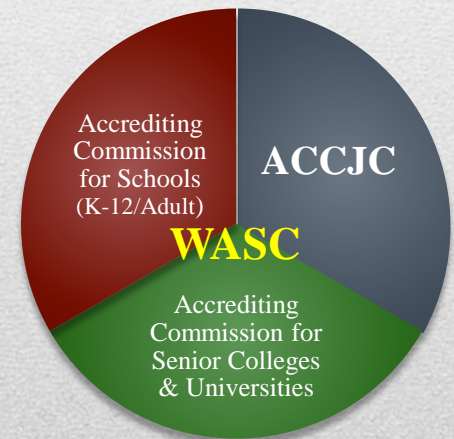
(*Grant accreditations to schools and colleges*)



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 ?



- Eradicate degree mills
- Taxpayers are demanding accountability for financial aid \$\$ spent on students
- Demand for documentation of student learning (outcomes)
 - ✓ Student Success Act - ARCC/Scorecard
 - ✓ Degrees - Obama

Accountability Measures

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

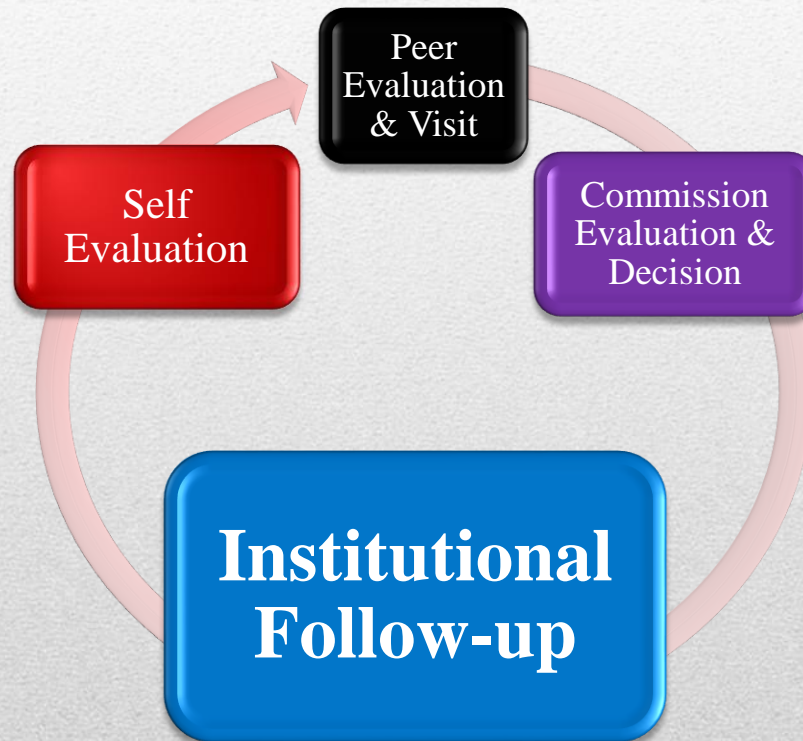
Mt. SAC ACCJC 2010 Evaluation Report

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

Why Should I Care ?

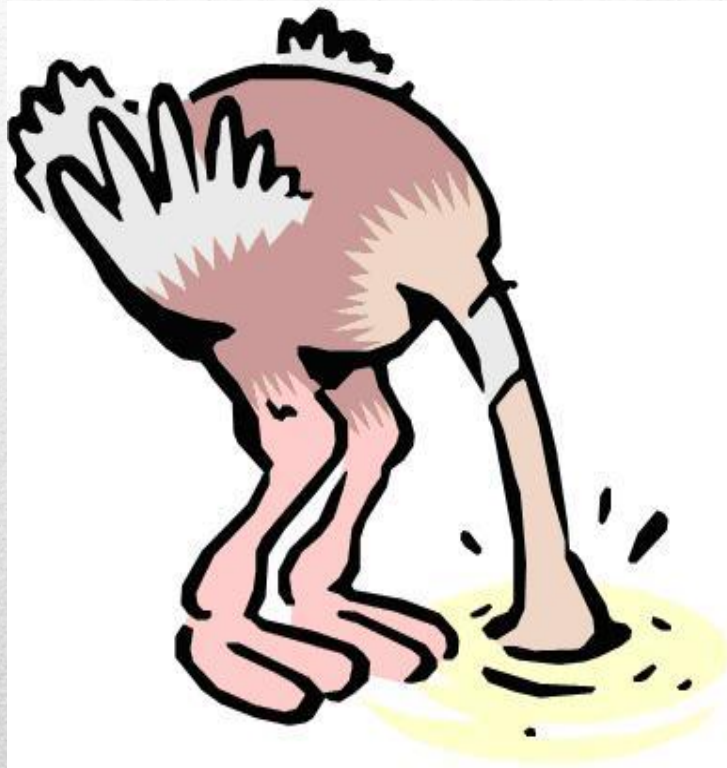
FEAR NOT !!

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



Continuous Accreditation Process

Accreditation standards, California Education Code, and Title 5 regulations all expect faculty to take a leadership role in ensuring student success.



Broad Participation is Key

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
- Information Technology Advisory Committee
- Professional Development committees
- Budget Committee
- President's Advisory Council

Standard IV: Leadership & Governance

- All Committee work
- Academic Senate
- Faculty Association
- Academic Mutual Agreement Council
- President's Advisory Council

Ongoing Work of Faculty

What Standard Or Standards Should Faculty Be Involved In?

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



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

Your Role in Ongoing Accreditation Work

“I think the most important part of accreditation is the Self-Evaluation. The Self-Evaluation allows the program to compare itself to industry standards, set by our manufacturers, and experience a very positive systematic “tune-up.”
- Darrow Soares

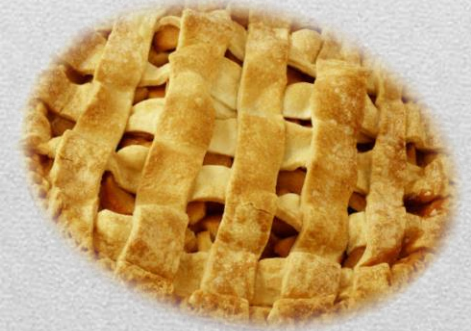
- Courses and programs are reviewed for usefulness and currency
- Student pathways to success are reviewed
- Budgeting, planning and resource allocation processes are examined

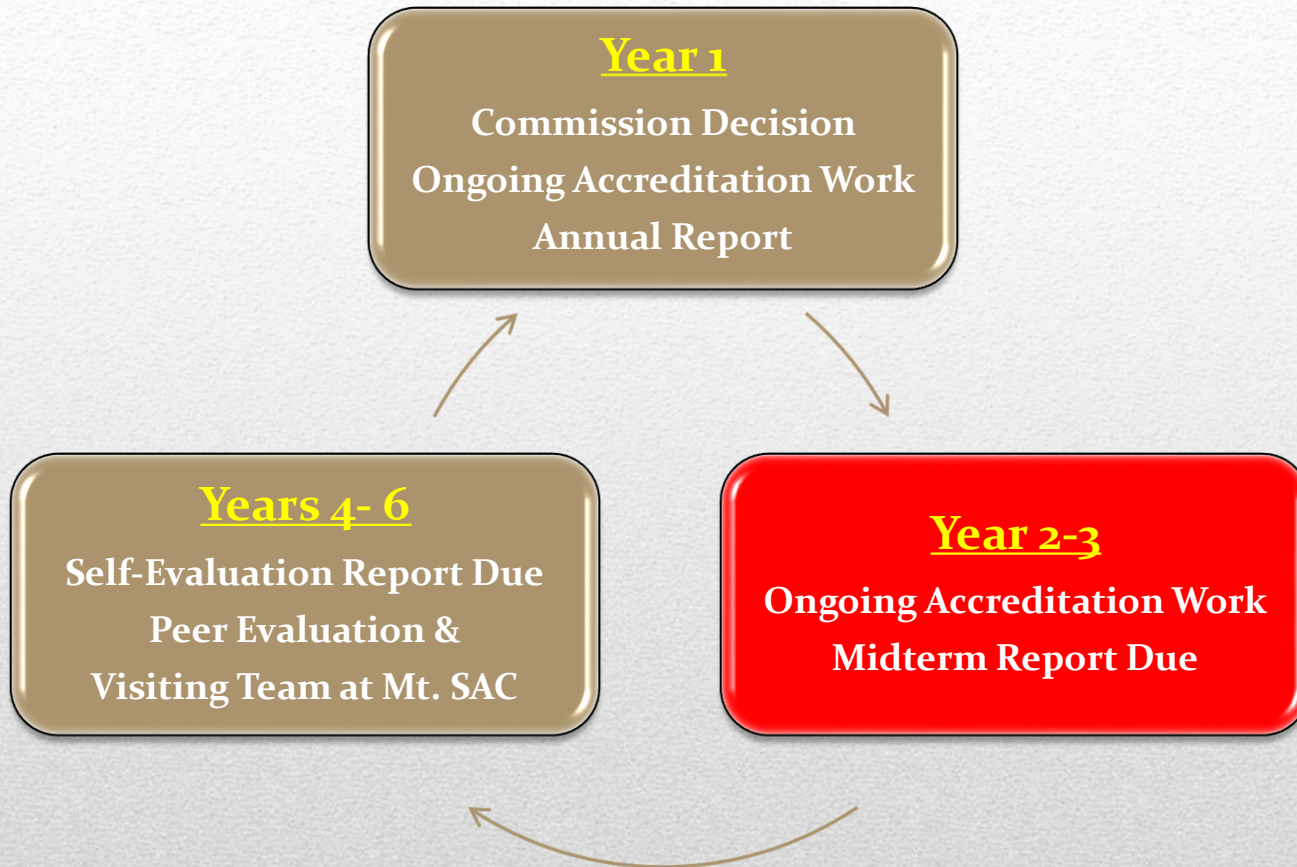
What Does Accreditation Verify ?



What Role Do Faculty Play In The Accreditation Process?

- A.** Ongoing, daily work of teaching and learning
- B.** Assessing and evaluating SLOs to guide 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, Academic Senate, & 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 ?

- 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

Michelle Grimes-Hillman

Standards, Equity, Access and Practices Committee Chair, Academic Senate for
California Community Colleges

MHillman@mtsac.edu

Eric Kaljumagi

President, Academic Senate

EKaljumagi@mtsac.edu

Virginia Burley

Vice President Instruction, Accreditation Liaison Officer

VBurley@mtsac.edu

Barbara McNeice-Stallard

Director of Research & Institutional Effectiveness

BMcNeice-Stallard@mtsac.edu

Contacts



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

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