EXCEEDING THE STANDARDS: MT. SAC

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Strengthening Student Success Conference
San Francisco, CA October 14, 2011
Both Chaffey College and Mt. San Antonio College (Mt. SAC) were invited to the accreditation session based on the ACCJC Evaluation Team’s report. Mt. SAC’s report indicated

“the successful linking of program review, planning, and budgeting inclusive of student services and instruction through the College's Planning for Institutional Effectiveness process."
PROGRAM REVIEW

- Mt. SAC uses its Planning for Institutional Effectiveness (PIE) for its comprehensive program review.

- Every year, all programs and services must complete PIE. PIEs include student learning outcomes. Steps include re-examination of how things went last year and list accomplishments, discussion of internal/external conditions that impact their area, align next year’s goals with college goals, measure effectiveness (e.g., SLO, AUO, SA), note resources needed, ask for resources from appropriate process/department.
PIE and Budgeting

- **PIE** is not aligned well with retrenchment – rather with growth
- Implementing a budget allocation model assumes that there are dollars to be allocated (but there are not always)
- How are current resource requests used to allocate the few resources available?
  - Vice Presidents bring Planning Agenda to meetings
  - Planning Agenda is already rank ordered by depts
  - Other planning processes (e.g., new faculty hiring) may require PIE information and other data for justification
STRUCTURE FOR TODAY

Part 1: Commendations & Mt. SAC institutional effectiveness (IE) Model [IE structure]

Part 2: How feedback from the ACCJC Team’s Evaluation Report is used to improve institutional effectiveness [IE practice]

Part 3: Mt. SAC cultural value that exists toward improvement [IE foundation & essence of how and why it works]
## Part 1: Commendations and IE Model

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Curriculum Flowchart

- Drafting Technology flowchart (see handout)
  - Demonstrates how course review and planning are integrated
  - Demonstrates how intensive work by one group can help to find the problem and work toward a solution
  - Demonstrates that there are struggles in the process
    - It takes time to do an excellent job
    - When issues need resolution, it means more work for others
ACCJC 2010 Recommendation #1: In order to strengthen institutional effectiveness, the team recommends that the college continue its dialogue with classified leadership to improve classified employee participation in the participatory governance process. (Standard IV.A.1, IV.3)

How did Mt. SAC use this feedback to improve institutional effectiveness?
Mt. SAC created a plan, collaboratively with classified, that included many ways to ask mostly classified employees for their input and suggestions to improve their involvement:

- Post-Accreditation Classified Workshop
- Communications Workshop
- Improved Involvement of Committee Members
- Managers’ Efforts to Improve Dialogue
In your group, take 5 minutes to discuss how your college uses the feedback from its ACCJC Team’s Evaluation Report to improve effectiveness.
PART 3: MT. SAC’S CULTURE

There is a can do culture at Mt. SAC:

- Historical perspective (how PIE evolved & how we found something that works & includes resources)
- Mt. SAC does what needs to be done.
- Mt. SAC evaluates how well a process was done and makes improvements and re-evaluates it.
- Mt. SAC uses evidence to demonstrate effectiveness of programs and services.
- Mt. SAC uses integrated planning in its programs and services.
We have a "can do", positive, continuous improvement attitude, that is an important ingredient to our successes, but it is not without many struggles too.

- It is always hard work to keep a culture positive and functional
- We keep working on making PIE better:
  - Minimizing difficulties
  - Examining where improvements can be actionable and have an impact (e.g., change deadline by 6 wks)
  - Joint meetings with Budget Committee
  - Balancing being stable with being flexible
Thank you for your time and interactions

Feel free to contact us with your questions

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Resources
http://inside.mtsac.edu/organization/committees/iec/
http://www.mtsac.edu/administration/research/newsletters.html
http://www.mtsac.edu/about/planning/
http://inside.mtsac.edu/organization/committees/budget/documents.html