Formal Preparation for the 2016 Accreditation Site Visit Continues

A NEW TIMELINE: As many of you may be aware, our site visit that was scheduled for the fall of 2016 has been postponed. We will now be visited in the spring of 2017. While this may bring a sigh of relief, as we have more time to prepare, Mt. SAC needs to continue the momentum that we have gathered as we have begun this project. So, teams are writing, committees are meeting, and work is being done to ensure that the momentum stays and results in a finished product that shows Mt. SAC as the premier community college that it is.

GAP ANALYSIS: A gap in accreditation is a place in which Mt. SAC doesn’t have evidence to illustrate that it meets an accreditation standard. With the initial gap analysis concluded, Mt. SAC has begun addressing gaps that have been identified. The themes that emerged in the gap analysis are the college mission (gap being addressed by President’s Advisory Council), student learning outcomes (gap being addressed by the Outcomes Committee), employee evaluations (gap being addressed by Human Resources), training for online students (gap being addressed by the Distance Learning Committee), and library involvement in the curriculum process (being addressed by the Curriculum and Instruction Council and its committees). Mt. SAC will have these gaps addressed before the writing of the final Self-Evaluation.

WRITING TEAMS: The Writing Teams have been working hard and have submitted their first drafts of the outlines of their analysis of their standards. These outlines were reviewed by the Accreditation Steering Committee at its May 1 meeting, and the results of this review will be passed onto the Chairs of the Writing Teams shortly. Thank you to those who have put in their hard work to ensure that this process is a collaborative one.

TRAINING: Training for accreditation is an ongoing process. Since the last issue of the newsletter, the Accreditation Planning Team and members of the Accreditation Steering Committee have accepted invitations to CSEA 651 and CSEA 262 meetings to train members of these constituency groups. Training was also conducted at the Faculty Flex Day as well as at the Professional Development Day that were held in February.

Did You Know?

Every single one of you who works or goes to school on this campus is a part of accreditation. We all work together to ensure quality at Mt. SAC. If you want to become more involved, contact your constituency group leaders. All volunteers are welcome.
How Much Do You Know?
How much do you know about accreditation? Take the quiz below, and see the answers at the bottom.

1. The acronym of our accrediting commission is:
   a. ACCJC  
   b. WASC  
   c. CCC

2. Currently, a regular site visit occurs every ___ years.
   a. 7  
   b. 6  
   c. 10

3. Mt. SAC’s Accreditation Liaison Officer is:
   a. President Bill Scroggins  
   b. Vice President of Instruction Irene Malmgren  
   c. Director of Research and Institutional Effectiveness Barbara McNeice Stallard

4. Members of Writing Teams are appointed by:
   a. Leaders of constituency groups  
   b. The College President  
   c. The Board of Trustees

5. Currently, Mt. SAC’s accreditation status is
   a. Warning  
   b. Probation  
   c. Reaffirmed