

# ACCREDITATION NOTES

## AN UPDATE ON THE MIDTERM REPORT

### WHAT IS ACCREDITATION ?

Accreditation is a process of professional peer review that supports educational excellence. It evaluates overall institutional quality and encourages continual improvement.

Accreditation by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) assures the public, employers, and other colleges and universities that education at Mt. SAC is of value. It also enables Mt. SAC to qualify for federal Title IV funds (financial aid for students) and other grants.

### MIDTERM REPORT BACKGROUND

In January 2011, the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) awarded Mt. SAC affirmation of accreditation with no further reports required until this Midterm Report in fall 2013. ACCJC also made three recommendations for improvement, not deficiency.

**It should be noted that this accreditation standing is the highest that any college can achieve and Mt. SAC is one of the fewest to achieve it.**

The Midterm Report includes a narrative analysis and evidence that describes progress on recommendations for improvement, continued eligibility for accreditation, adherence to Accreditation Standards and Commission Policies, and the status of Mt. SAC's six self-identified improvement plans.

#### Accreditation Leadership Ad Hoc Group

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### Midterm Report Timeline

#### April 2013

Campus community provides input to the report

#### April 2013

President's Cabinet & PAC review the report

#### May 2013

Midterm Report submitted to the Board of Trustees for review

#### June 2013

Seek Board approval of the Midterm Report

#### August 2013

Midterm Report submitted to ACCJC

### PROCESS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE MIDTERM REPORT

The Midterm Report is being prepared in collaboration with the Accreditation Leadership Ad Hoc Group. The Leadership Group was convened in 2012 to spearhead the completion of the Midterm Report. This effort began in spring 2012 with the revision of a form requesting campus-wide updates on Mt. SAC's three recommendations and six improvement plans. Group members act as liaisons with college constituencies to gather Midterm Report information and evidence.

In fall 2012, a request for narrative progress updates was sent to all managers and chairs of groups/committees identified as key contributors in the data collection process. Then in spring 2013 the Leadership Group drafted the Midterm Report using this information.

**WE INVITE YOU TO REVIEW ALL OR PORTIONS OF THE MIDTERM REPORT AND SUBMIT COMMENTS BY APRIL 16.**