

# MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING - JANUARY 21, 2022

ACCREDITATION VISIT UPDATE

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## WHAT IS ACCREDITATION, AND WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT?

- **Voluntary system** of peer review unique to U.S. higher education
- A practice of **academic quality control**
- A **partnership** between ACCJC and its member institutions
- Fosters institutional excellence and continuous improvement through application of **Standards**, adherence to **Eligibility Requirements** and **Commission policies**
- **Deep, honest inquiry** into institutional strengths and weaknesses
- Supportive of SRJC's efforts to provide the best educational programs and services possible in fulfillment of our **mission**.

## WHY BOTHER?

- Gatekeepers of federal financial aid and government funds
- Recognition for transfer, profession-related licensing agencies, and employers of legitimacy of degrees, certificates, courses
- Assure quality to the public and value to students
- Ensure institutions meet their mission
- Improve academic quality, effectiveness, and student success

## AN ONGOING PROCESS

- Comprehensive Evaluation (every 7 years) – 2022; again in 2029
- Mid-Term Report (4 years after comprehensive review) - 2026
- Annual Report and Annual Fiscal Report (every April)
- Substantive Change Proposals (as needed)
- Follow-up or Special Reports (as requested)

## WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE SITE VISIT?

- Trained volunteers from community colleges in ACCJC's region
- Professional experience and areas of expertise
- Team Chair, Team Assistant, ACCJC Liaison
- Review ISER, 'visit' the institution
- Validate and verify alignment with Standards
- Peer Review Team Report
  - Recommendations to meet Standards
  - Recommendations for improvement
  - Commend exemplary practices
- Comprehensive Evaluation for Reaccreditation
- Special Fiscal Monitoring Visit

## **WHEN IS THE ACCREDITATION SITE VISIT SCHEDULED, AND WHERE WILL THE TEAM CONDUCT ITS WORK?**

- Monday, February 28 – Thursday, March 3, 2022
- Virtual Visit – via Zoom platform
- Planning meeting with President and ALO
- ISER Review and Peer Review Team Report draft completed in advance
- Requests for additional evidence/documentation
- Requests for interviews of select individuals

# WHO ARE OUR EXTERNAL EVALUATION TEAM MEMBERS?

Name	Title	College
Mr. Ronald Gerhard, Chair	Chancellor	Chabot-Las Positas Community College District
Ms. Nan Ho, Assistant	Dean of Academic Services	Las Positas College
Dr. Lee Ballestero	Faculty, Political Science	Moorpark College
Dr. Treisa Cassens	Dean, Library, Learning Resources Center and Distance Education	Cypress College
Dr. Tera Martin	Director, Integrated Learning Center & English Instructor	Cabrillo College
Mr. Dale van Dam	Vice President of Instruction & ALO	Reedley College
Dr. FeRita Carter	Vice President Student Services	Riverside City College
Mr. Kyle Crider	Director of Accreditation, Research, Institutional Effectiveness, Planning	West Hills Community College District
Mr. Jonah Nicholas	Vice Chancellor of Business Services	Chabot-Las Positas Community College District
Dr. Kevin Bontenbal	Vice President, ACCJC Liaison	ACCJC

## WHAT WILL THE TEAM DO WHILE THEY ARE “HERE”?

- Welcome Greetings
- Interviews or Requests for Evidence
- Team Meetings
- Forums (2)
- Exit Report



# WHAT ELSE SHOULD WE KNOW ABOUT THE SITE VISIT?

- Process has changed since 2015 – Streamlined
- Collegial, respectful and professional
- Validation and affirmation of how SRJC meets the Standards
- Trust the ISER, seek to understand
- Practice appreciative inquiry
- Alignment with Standards rather than hunting for deficiencies
- ISER provides Introduction, Data, Evidence of Meeting the Standards, Analysis and Evaluation, Improvement Plans, Quality Focus Essay

# WHAT DO THE STANDARDS COVER, AND HOW WELL DOES SRJC MEET THOSE STANDARDS?

Standard	Areas Identified for Improvement
<b>Standard I:</b> Mission, Academic Quality and Institutional Effectiveness, and Integrity	SRJC is in the process of updating its Strategic Plan and will center the review, revision and Board approval of the mission as an essential cornerstone of the process intended to guide the educational purpose of the College into the future.
<b>Standard II:</b> Student Learning Programs and Support Services	The College will conduct equity audits for its various Student Services areas and will continue to review all aspects of its new placement instruments and methods as more data is gathered each term.
<b>Standard III:</b> Resources: Human, Physical, Technology, Financial	SRJC has implemented processes to continuously plan for, update, and replace technology to ensure the College's infrastructure, quality, and capacity are adequate to support the College's Mission, operations, programs, and services. Needs are assessed through the PRPP, surveys, evolutions in technology, and prioritized by committee and governing structures in place.
<b>Standard IV:</b> Leadership and Governance	With the submission of an Institutional Innovation and Effectiveness Plan in March 2021 that was associated with the Partnership Resource Team visits from 2020, SRJC is committed to streamlining and improving its shared governance processes. The Plan establishes action steps, measures of progress and target dates for meeting each objective and will serve as a guiding document for moving forward with the goal of continually improving our processes.

## WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE SITE VISIT?

- Peer Review Team Report finalized
- College given opportunity to review and correct errors of fact
- Submitted to ACCJC
- Commission meeting early June 2022
- Communicates decision in a formal Action Letter to President
- Documents any areas out of compliance with Standards, actions required to take, and commendations where institutional practice exceeds Standards
- Reaffirmation, Follow-up Report and/or Visit, Warning and Required Action

## WHAT CAN I DO TO PREPARE?

- Be informed, involved, available, welcoming; engage in the process
- Read, review, skim, familiarize yourself with the ISER and evidence
- Become very familiar with the ISER contents that relate to your area of supervision
- Visit SRJC's Accreditation website; read and share information
- Inform your department, cluster, site colleagues about the process



<https://accreditation.santarosa.edu/>