

Accreditation 2006 - Bakersfield, Cerro Coso, and Porterville College

I want to thank each of you for your participation in the various stages of the accreditation process for BC, CCCC, and PC. Your efforts to prepare for the accreditation visits are appreciated. You worked very hard through several draft self-study reports, prepared for the accreditation team visits, engaged in interviews, and responded to requests for more information. Congratulations to everyone for a job well done!

Each of the colleges received commendations and recommendations, as did the district office and Board. The accreditation teams were complimentary of the Board and their understanding of their role and district issues.

Overall, the lead accreditation chair, Dr. Hunter, Chancellor, North Orange CCD stated that every Board, Chancellor, and President should be so lucky to be were KCCD and its colleges are operationally. The comments by the lead chair and the three colleges' preliminary reports confirmed my assessment of where we are and where we should focus our ongoing work. We have a lot to proud about, so take the time to celebrate your successes! In the next few weeks the district and each college will discuss how we will move forward, but for now rest easy that we are fulfilling our mission.

The preliminary, unofficial commendations (noted first) and recommendations listed by location are available on the KCCD website: www.kccd.edu. The commendations and recommendations are based on what I heard first or second hand (you know how that goes), but as you know there will be changes in wording and the number of recommendations made in the final written version. Nothing is official and the colleges will not receive a determination of accreditation status until after the commission meeting in January 2007. That said, I figured you would want to know the preliminary outcome of each visit.

General District/Districtwide:

Board understands its role and supports what needs to get done.

Chancellor knows what all the issues are, what needs to get done, and is capable of doing it.

Response to previous recommendations regarding board's role and need for fiscal stability.

- Develop and implement district allocation model that considers the uniqueness of each college.
- Develop function-based organizational map, especially noting roles and responsibilities between district and the colleges.
- Adopt Board Policy for self-evaluation being developed, including appropriate procedures for violations of ethics policy.
- Use the district strategic plan to direct the work of the college strategic plans to work towards unity as a district. Nice distinction on difference between *union & unity*.
- Implement existing procedures for evaluating adjunct faculty.
- Develop written code of ethics for all groups (references to standard practice and assumptions not enough).

Bakersfield College:

Broad based student learning outcomes implementation

Extensive Data available

Education plan is center of planning and decision-making

Delano Center joint use facility with high school

Collaboration with CSUB

Maintenance of grounds and buildings

President's commitment to improve communication

- Fully implement training in procedures and implementation of Program Review, emphasizing timelines and evaluation mechanism.
- Continue to develop and implement learning outcomes at the course, program and campus levels, especially looking at General Education and Administrative outcomes.
- Evaluate staffing levels for student learning support, especially noting needs in the distance learning area to keep up with expanding changes in technology.
- Concern for staff development and diversity will probably be combined into one recommendation in the final version.
- Concern for resource allocation to address staff development and training needs.
- Develop planning agendas to meet the needs of the community's changing demographics.

- College Council needs to develop and adopt Bylaws that will more officially delineate functions and procedures to address the linkage concerns in decision-making and allocation protocols.

Cerro Coso College:

Optimism of new administration
 Feeling of family
 Willingness to work hard
 Student testimonials were positive
 Helpfulness of staff and faculty
 Facilities are great
 High energy throughout the college

- Develop written participatory Guidelines.
- Determine minimum staffing needs.
- Develop an integrated strategic plan that is linked to other plans.
- Continue to develop program review process and use the results for improvement.
- Make progress in implementing Student Learning Outcomes (SLO) and use the results.
- Develop strategies to make sure programs are appropriate to areas of service.

Porterville College:

Collegiality is the best seen
 College has the potential to be the best
 College is on the edge of starting with a new perspective and hope for the future

- Review and develop a new Mission Statement
- Planning strategies that include the analysis of data to make better decisions and link the plan to the budget
- Student Learning Outcomes needs to be institutionalized in everything we do
- Equity of Student Access: consistent services for students whether they are day students, evening students and/or online students.

- Leadership: Defining the roles and responsibility of all of the colleges constituents