An update on

City College of San Francisco

Presented to the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges

July 8, 2013
California Community Colleges Currently or Recently on SHOW CAUSE

• College of the Redwoods – Removed from SHOW CAUSE in January of 2013

• Cuesta College – Removed from SHOW CAUSE in January of 2013

• City College of San Francisco – Determination July 2013

• College of the Sequoias – On SHOW CAUSE determination in January of 2014
Why is accreditation important to a college or university?

• Ability to transfer credit.
• Ability for students to receive federal financial aid.
• Ability for a California institution to receive state financial support.
Accrediting Commission
levels of sanction

• **WARNING** – Institution deviates from the standards.

• **PROBATION** – Institution deviates significantly from the standards.

• **SHOW CAUSE** – Institution is in substantial non-compliance with standards and must demonstrate why it should not lose accreditation.
Recent history of City College of San Francisco Accreditation

- July 2006 – Initial Commission report detailing concerns
- 2012 – College placed on “SHOW CAUSE.”
- March 2012 – College submitted required Show Cause report detailing progress and closure plan.
- July 2013 – Commission ruled to terminate accreditation of the college in July of 2014.
What are the reasons CCSF is facing accreditation sanction?

- Finances
- Governance
- Planning
- Student learning outcomes
- Program evaluation
The Commission found the college still out of compliance with 4 of the 21 eligibility requirements, and parts of all 4 of the standards for accreditation.
Are there other indicators that the college is experiencing difficulties?

• Original FCMAT Report – September 2012
  ➢ No plan for fiscal stability
  ➢ Assumes revenue not guaranteed
  ➢ Far too much of total budget in personnel
  ➢ No enrollment management
  ➢ Too much interim management
  ➢ CCSF is “facing financial insolvency”
  ➢ “Operational dysfunction”
Are there other indicators that the college is experiencing difficulties?

  - Lack of skilled staff at all levels
  - Unauthorized wage rate changes
  - Staff payroll overpayments
  - No verification of vacation and sick time
  - No one assigned to position control
  - Employee benefits not re-confirmed
  - Data system overly-customized
Possible Commission Action on CCSF in July

Scenario A

- Move to more modest sanction giving the college more time to complete their recovery.

Scenario B

- Keep on Show Cause suggesting progress inadequate and termination likely.

Scenario C

- Terminate accreditation effective pending appeal.
What would termination of accreditation mean to CCSF

• College can no longer accept new students.
• College must “teach out” existing students.
• College will no longer receive state funding.
• College will be unable to meet its financial obligations.
• College would no longer be a “going concern.”
What happens before termination of accreditation?

- College can file a request for a review of Commission action.
- College can file an appeal of the Commission action.
- College can continue to admit new students until all review and appeal actions are exhausted.
- Entire process can take a year or more.
What impact does state intervention have on the accreditation of CCSF?

• Accreditation remains pending the outcome of all appeals.

• The Chancellor’s Office, through its Trustee, and college staff can continue to address accreditation issues.

• Intervention would begin to address Commission concerns about the college Board.

• Intervention would immediately improve the college relations with the Commission.
What state intervention does NOT mean to CCSF?

• Does not grant additional time to address concerns of the Commission.

• Does not lessen the accreditation requirements for the college.

• Does not void any collective bargaining agreements.

• Does not ensure successful exit from termination.
Why should the state intervene in CCSF?
Why should the state intervene in CCSF?

- Thousands of students would be without an option for access to higher education.
- Largest workforce trainer in the Bay area.
- Critical public institution for prominent California city.
- Financial default of a large public institution.
- Thousands of CCSF employees stand to lose their jobs.
What would be the effect of intervention?

- Board of Governors approves rescue.
- Immediately elevate Special Trustee and set-aside the existing board.
- File for Commission review and then for appeal.
- Work to meet all standards while appeal is underway.
- Seek reversal of decision to terminate accreditation at the end of the appeal.
Would special legislation or a financial “bail-out” be necessary?

Not at this time.
City College of San Francisco
Fall Enrollment Credit And Noncredit Headcount

Terms

Enrollment

2003: 67,092
2004: 61,711
2005: 63,190
2006: 64,018
2007: 65,103
2008: 67,485
2009: 65,362
2010: 63,746
2011: 63,179
2012: 58,028
What State help would be needed?

• Support of the rescue effort.
• Support of the Chancellor’s Office in their efforts to rescue the college.
• Expression of confidence in the plan to rescue the college.
• Willingness to revisit the need for special legislation and financial support later if necessary.
Concerns about Accreditation and ACCJC vs. City College of San Francisco
In Summary

- Civic leadership in SF support the rescue effort.
- Mayor Lee and area legislators are supportive.
- City College does not have the luxury of time.
- Difficult decision – but one that must be made to save education for 85,000 students and the City of San Francisco.