



The Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges

PRESENTED TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

DATE: November 16-17, 2015

SUBJECT: Accreditation Task Force Report		Item Number: 2.6	
		Attachment: Yes	
CATEGORY:	Academic Affairs/Legal Affairs	TYPE OF BOARD CONSIDERATION:	
Recommended By:	<i>Pamela D. Walker</i>	Consent/Routine	
	Pamela D. Walker, Vice Chancellor	First Reading	
Approved for Consideration:	<i>Brice W. Harris</i>	Action	X
		Information	
		Brice W. Harris, Chancellor	

ISSUE: Approval of Resolution 2015-03 to Endorse 2015 Accreditation Task Force Report.

BACKGROUND: The 2015 Accreditation Task Force was created to evaluate the current state of accreditation for the 113 colleges in the California community college system and to identify and recommend a course of action that will best serve colleges today and in the future.

Membership of the task force represented a broad range of key stakeholders from the community college system and included representatives from the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC), Chief Instructional Officers (CIO), Chief Student Services Offices (CSSO), elected Boards of Trustees (CCCT), Chief Executive Officers (CEO), Faculty Union representatives, Los Angeles College Faculty Guild, American Federation of Teachers (AFT) Local 1521, Faculty Association of California Community Colleges (FACCC), and the California Community College Chancellor’s Office (CCCCO). The 2015 Accreditation Task Force reviewed the history and background of accreditation at the national level and in California, developed ideal attributes for an accrediting organization, and summarized findings and recommendations. **(Background cont.)**

RECOMMENDED ACTION: It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve the attached resolution to endorse the 2015 Accreditation Task Force Report.

(Background cont.)

The task force concluded that the structure of accreditation in this region no longer meets the current and anticipated needs of the California Community Colleges. Furthermore, the task force found that several past attempts to engage with the Accreditation Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) to make the accreditation process more effective and collegial have yielded little in the way of progress. The task force concluded that the California Community College system and its member institutions have lost confidence in the ACCJC and that change is needed. The task force recommended that a plan be developed by spring 2016 to begin transitioning California community colleges to a different accrediting body.

Since the task force report was released in late August, several statewide organizations have taken positions on the Task Force recommendations, and their letters are enclosed. A list of college organizations and individuals in support or opposition of the Task Force recommendations is also included. In addition, the ACCJC held a special public meeting in October to gather input on the task force recommendations, and the organization has announced it will hold other meetings around the state to receive additional feedback.