

Accreditation Workgroup II: Western Region Higher Education Accrediting Model

NOTES

Date: Thursday, May 19, 2016
Time: 2:30 PM – 6:30 PM
Location: Los Rios Community College District – Board Room

Attendees

California Community Colleges CEOs

Cindy Miles	Chancellor, Grossmont-Cuyamaca CCD, Convener	Brian Murphy	President, De Anza College (Foothill-DeAnza CCD)
Lori Adrian	President, Coastline CC (Coast CCD)	Bill Scroggins	Superintendent/President, Mt San Antonio CCD
Constance Carroll	Chancellor, San Diego CCD	Susan Sperling	President, Chabot College (Chabot-Las Positas CCD)
Dena Maloney	Superintendent/President, El Camino CCD	Joe Wyse	Superintendent/President, Shasta-Tehama-Trinity CCD
Cheryl Marshall	Chancellor, North Orange CCCD (After 7/1/16)		

University of Hawaii community colleges

Lui Hokoana Chancellor, Maui College, Univ of Hawaii

Private Colleges with membership in ACCJC

Jeff Akens Retired President (Carrington College)

WASC Senior College and University of Commission

Mary Ellen Petrisko President
 William Ladusaw Chair

Ex-officio Member

Brian King Chancellor, Los Rios CCD

Myra Lomahan Exec. Assistant, Grossmont-Cuyamaca CCD
 (Notetaker)

Unable to attend

California Community Colleges CEOs

Sandra Caldwell	President, Reedley College (State Center CCD)	Willard Lewallen	Superintendent/President, Hartnell CCD
Ron Kraft	Superintendent/President, Napa CCD	Sandra Mayo	President, Moreno Valley College (Riverside CCD)

1.	<p>Welcome - Cindy Thanks to Chancellor Brian King and his staff for hosting our workgroup at Los Rios CCD.</p> <p>Introductions and Accreditation Experience</p> <p>Constance Carroll</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEO for 38 years • Early experience with New England of Colleges and on teams in Middle States Commission • Served as commissioner 10 years for ACCJC; 2 years for Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) <p>Lori Adrian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 years as president, over 25 years in community college education • Self-study team member and a member of accreditation site teams (ACCJC) • Co-chaired accreditation site visit team with Helen Benjamin, Hawaii colleges <p>Brian Murphy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited experience with ACCJC but experience with WASC Sr. while at SFSU • Chief consultant to California State Legislature’s review of Master Plan for Higher Education in late 80s <p>Susan Sperling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 years at Chabot College and 4th year as President • Chabot is on an 18th month affirmation with ACCJC <p>Bill Scroggins</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty leader for visiting teams; chaired 11 visiting teams (ACCJC) • Part of the California Assessment Institute Task Force that wrote Handbook on Outcomes Assessment with Darlene Pacheco
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Joe Wyse

- Over 25 years in higher education
- Former CEO at North Century School accredited by Higher Learning Commission (HLC)
- Active in law school receiving accreditation
- Chairing a team this fall – 2nd time to chair (ACCJC)

Brian King - Ex-officio member (incoming chair of California Community Colleges CEO Board – CCCCEO)

- Over 20 years community college teaching/administration
- In the 90s wrote self-study report for new college in Missouri (North Central/HLC)
- Chaired a few visiting teams (ACCJC).
- Currently working with Cindy Miles and Helen Benjamin on CCCCEO accreditation reform initiative (Workgroups I and II)

William Ladusaw

- 32 years at UC Santa Cruz as a Professor of Linguistics
- Former Vice Provost, Dean of Undergraduate Education/Accreditation Liaison
- Has had strong relations with community colleges
- Current Chair for WASC Sr. Commission

Mary Ellen Petrisko

- Tenured faculty member in Philosophy
- Deputy Secretary of higher education for state of Maryland
- VP at University of Maryland University College
- 3 years as WASC Sr. President

Jeff Akens

- Recently retired, 9 years President of Carrington College (private two-year college, Sacramento).
- Employed at Carrington for 23 years
- Experience with national and regional accreditation process (ACCJC, 2 reaffirmation cycles)

Dena Maloney

- At El Camino CCD since February, with 19 years of higher education experience
- Served on writing teams at various institutions
- Was at Taft College, which was just reaffirmed for 18 months
- Now at El Camino College District and working with the team at the Compton Center to become an independent, accredited college. The team is writing the Self Evaluation for Candidacy now.

Cheryl Marshall

- Just a few more days as Crafton Hills President; Chancellor North Orange CCCD beginning July 5th.
- VP of Instruction at Crafton during ACCJC probation
- Served on 2 teams with excellent chairs

Lui Hokoana

- With University of Hawaii system over 15 years; 10 years with Maui College (ACCJC/WASC Sr.)
- Has been on visiting teams for junior and senior colleges, just had one here in Sacramento.
- Established a new college through accreditation

Myra Lomahan

- With Grossmont-Cuyamaca CCD for just over 2 months
- Worked with a private college with national accredited.
- Audited records and prepared operation reports (enrollment, graduation, employment, etc.) in preparation for accreditation visits

Cindy Miles

- 8th year as Chancellor at Grossmont-Cuyamaca CCD; over 25 years in higher education
- Has served on visiting, substantive change, and reaffirmation teams with ACCJC, SACS and HLC
- VP/COO of League for Innovation during emergence of SLO movement
- On CCCCEO board since 2011
- Served on 3 California Community College Chancellor's Office accreditation task forces
- Working with Brian King, Helen Benjamin on California Community Colleges CEO accreditation reform

2. **History and Purpose - The following items were discussed:**

National Structure and Climate of Accreditation

California Community Colleges background:

- Long-standing concerns, frustrations from multiple constituencies with accreditation processes; multiple studies, taskforces finding same issues with ACCJC.
- City College of San Francisco's distressed climate regarding accreditation and labor involvement added political pressure.
- Strong interest from Board of Governors (and Chancellor's Office); BOG passed resolution March 2016 to expedite change.

Regional accrediting organizations [map](#) and graph were reviewed. Noted 6 regions and 7 regional accrediting organizations in the nation; only Western region has separate junior/senior college accreditors

Why does Western region have separate higher education accrediting organizations?

- This seems to be an artifact of the unique history of California higher education
- CA Master Plan of 1960 differentiated functions between UC/CSU/community colleges
- ACCJC was formed in 1962; In the 60s most California community colleges were emerging from the K-12 system and so were viewed as distinct from other parts of higher education.
- Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) was divided into 3 groups:
 - Schools (K-12) - Accrediting Commission for Schools (ACS)
 - 2-yr colleges - Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC)
 - 4-yr colleges and universities—WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC)

Excerpt from [report](#) for Taskforce on Accreditation work listing regional accrediting organizations with contact, number of members, and differences in warning processes, sanctions, etc.

Increasing pressure and demands on accreditors from US Dept. of Education (USDE) and members of Congress for more public information on student achievement, completion rates, college costs, loan default rates, loan repayments, colleges "at risk" of accreditation sanction, etc.

- USDE Under Secretary Mitchell's April 22, 2016 [letter](#) to accrediting agencies calling for the following:
 - focus on metrics for completion rates, job placement rates, student achievement
 - "objective, transparent, comparable, and actionable quantitative measures" for "important measures, such as retention, graduation, and cohort default rates"
 - "provide early warning to the Department of issues it must investigate"
- Two components of USDE share responsibilities for accreditation oversight, but often are not integrated in their approaches and communications: National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) and USDE staff monitoring financial aid compliance
- The 7 regional accreditors work together through Council of Regional Accrediting Commissions (CRAC), sharing information and, when appropriate, responding collectively to national accrediting concerns.
- Despite significant similarities in accreditation standards, significant and long-standing differences in culture, emphasis, and processes were noted to exist among the regional accreditors.

Charge and Composition of Workgroups

Two workgroups were created by the CCCCEO board and confirmed by the Board of Governors :

Workgroup I: Improving ACCJC Structure, Function, and Relations, convened by Helen Benjamin

- [Charge and Composition](#) and meeting [notes](#) dated April 27, 2016.
- Includes representatives from ACCJC.
- Identified 5 Areas of Focus (Chair & Team Training; Communication; Evaluation of Commission/Staff Leadership; College Evaluation Reports, Team Reports, & Visits); Commission Operations.
- Subgroups redeveloping recommendations for each area.
- Recommendation report to be shared with ACCJC commission meeting June 9.
- Helen and Brian to discuss recommendations with commissioners during closed session.
- Report also due to CEOCCC Board June 17 and to CCC Board of Governors July 18.

	<p><i>Workgroup II: Western Region Higher Education Accrediting Model, convened by Cindy Miles</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charge and Composition • Goal: Pursue model that aligns all segments of higher education in the Western region. • Members: ACCJC CEOs (public, private); WSCUC- Maui CEO (private CEO pending), president, commission chair; ACCJC commissioners and president invited, but declined participation. • The key motivation for this work is to meet changing nature of higher education and to and the students we serve. • Lines and roles between higher education segments are increasingly blurred (CSU offering doctorates; community colleges offering baccalaureates; 4-year universities offering associates; burgeoning diversity of public/private/online institutions; greater demand for transfer and alignment across sectors (Assoc. Degrees for Transfer; National Completion Agenda)
3.	<p>Working Dinner</p>
4.	<p>Expectations</p> <p><i>What are your ideal desired outcomes for this workgroup?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propose a model to align us and have integration with a regional accrediting agency used by both community colleges and universities. • Have the accrediting body as a partner to help with the quality assurance, compliance and accountability, rather than being the “police.” • Approach this work by looking at what is best for the future of higher education in our region in all sectors. • Integrated accreditation system in the West that includes all universities and colleges. • Authenticate assessment – measure real things, such as students getting jobs. • We need quantitative measures that are streamlined and useful over the next 30 years. • Defined structure of transfer from community college to university. • We need alignment and support, just like WASC Senior. With ACCJC you feel threatened. • A model like that of WASC Senior—with infrastructure for support and training and focus on helping colleges improve—would serve all higher education in our region. • One set of rules for accountability and outcomes, but insuring peers who recognize the differences between universities and community colleges. • Community colleges are an entrance to universities for increasing numbers of transfer students, so it is natural that we have alignment across the pathway. • A learning community that defines the most effective way for accreditation to serve students.
5.	<p>Goal, Work Plan, Teams, and Timeline</p> <p><u>Goal</u>: Higher Education Accreditation Alignment</p> <p><u>Work Plan</u>: Research other accrediting bodies and how alignment works in each region.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How does higher education “alignment” work in other commissions? 2. What would be the <u>elements</u> of a model higher education accrediting system for the Western Region? <p>In preparation for our July meeting, please send your responses (and any reference materials you might share) to questions 1 & 2 to Myra.Lomahan@gcccd.edu by June 15.</p> <p><u>Timeline</u>: We are expected to provide quarterly updates to the Board of Governors beginning September 1st</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members requested next meeting in July to begin a work plan for the September report. • Myra will collate and distribute responses to expedite our work via email.
6.	<p>Next Meeting:</p> <p>President Lori Adrian has kindly volunteered to host the next meeting in the Fountain Valley area. Based on majority responses to the email poll, following is our next meeting:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Date: Thursday, July 14 Time: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM (lunch included)</p> <p>For those who cannot attend in person, we will hold a Conference Call.</p> <p>Details for both the meeting and call will follow in a separate email.</p>