Consultation Council Task Force on Accreditation

Charge of the Task Force

A significant number of California community colleges are on some level of sanction from the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC). While there are many possible reasons or explanations for the high number of sanctions, it appears as if there are a larger percentage of community colleges in the western region on sanction than in other regions. For the colleges on sanction this has created significant pressure, especially during a time of economic hardship. In response to the continuing challenges colleges are facing with respect to accreditation, the Consultation Council of the California Community Colleges has asked the Chancellor to reestablish a Task Force on the subject.

Broadly stated, the charge of the task force would be: For California community colleges to gain a greater understanding of the processes used by ACCJC so that the work of ACCJC becomes more transparent to the colleges, while at the same time helping ACCJC to better understand the stresses placed upon the colleges by the accreditation process and the sanctions. Despite robust work by ACCJC to communicate its mission and methods, questions remains as to why the ACCJC conducts its work in the manner that it does. The task force will develop a deeper understanding of the constraints under which ACCJC operates, particularly with respect to the US Department of Education.

The task force will conclude its work with a report to the Chancellor if possible by August 1, 2013.

Related Questions for the Task Force:

- Is the discrepancy in the percentage of western region institutions on sanction comparable with other regions in the country?
- What are the reasons for the high number of California community colleges failing to meet established standards?
- Why do some colleges seem to maintain positive accreditation status while others seem to have ongoing problems?
- What is causing some colleges to be unable to maintain good accreditation status over time?
- What are the pressures that cause some institutions to not meet standards?
- How do colleges who have been on sanction respond to their experience? Has the process of getting off sanction improved the institution?
Membership

1. CEO
2. CIO
3. CSSO
4. ASCCC
5. CCC/CFT or CCA/CTA
6. CSEA
7. FACCC
8. ACCCA
9. SSSCC
10. CCCI