

Fall 2013 Accreditation Newsletter



What's this I hear about City College of San Francisco?

What does this mean for ELAC?

"In Early July, the ACCJC (Accreditation Commission for Community and Junior Colleges) voted to terminate City College of San Francisco's accreditation effective July 31, 2014. This action follows a one-year period in which the institution was on show cause and required to correct deficiencies found by a 2012 evaluation team."

Currently ELAC is fully accredited. We as a college need to continue to follow accreditation standards that outline peer-reviewed best practices.

Program Review and Planning

Congratulations! Every department (all 69) turned in a completed Program Review Document. So now that program review is done, what happens to the document? Does anybody really read it?

The answer is yes. Program review is the first step in ELAC's integrated planning process and forms the basis of curriculum development, resource allocation and action plans for both the Strategic Plan and the Educational Master Plan. All this planning keeps ELAC focused on its mission to empower students for a better world..

Seven committees will be looking at the document:

EPSC- Reviews the planning agendas and related materials to determine the manner in which each program is furthering the college efforts to complete its *Educational Master Plan*.

FPSC- Reviews the planning agendas and related materials to determine the manner in which each program is furthering the college efforts to complete its *Facilities Master Plan*.

TPSC- Reviews the planning agendas and related materials to determine the manner in which each program is furthering the college efforts to complete its *Technology Master Plan*.

EMC- Reviews material relating to course offerings and student ability to complete degrees, certificates and transfer curriculum. Determine how this information should be integrated into the enrollment management processes.

Curriculum Committee- Reviews materials as it relates to **curricular** development.

LAC- Reviews material related to program **learning outcome** assessment.

PRVC (Program Review and Viability Committee)- Reviews entire document on a global level to ensure integration of recommendations from all other groups.

Following this process each programs' goals and recommendations will be integrated into the college master plans as action items. This will allow the program plans to be acknowledged across campus and for the college to best prioritize actions through its budgeting process.

These steps are outlined in the *Governance Policy Handbook*.

Program Review Continued: The creation of these processes emanated from the 2009 Accreditation college recommendation 2: Improve Institutional Effectiveness. One of the goals of Accreditation is to “integrate planning with decision making and budgeting processes to ensure that the decisions to allocate staff, equipment, resources and facilities throughout the college are based on identified strategic priorities...” What that means is that the left hand needs to know what the right hand is doing.

So what do you need to do next?

Now departments need to do what they said they would do. These plans need to become a reality.

The good news is that a full Program Review is only completed every six year. In between, Annual Updates are due to chart progress on each department’s goals.

The Program Review Process itself is evaluated, so if you have suggestions to improve the process call the Institutional Planning Office.

The college values the dedication and effort that went into each review.

Academic Senate Resolution Supporting SLOs

On September 10, 2013 the Academic Senate passed the following resolution, “Academic Senate gives a vote of confidence to move the SLO process toward student success and categorically stands against unethical actions that will impede the process.” Thank you for your support.

Accreditation Committees

ELAC will have two general committees working on accreditation. The first is the **Accreditation Steering Committee**, which will consist of the Standard and Substandard leaders. This committee will meet monthly and will serve to guide the accreditation process as a whole, establish and monitor the timeline for completion and make recommendations for major elements of the Self-Evaluation process to ensure consistency and quality throughout the process.

The second committee is the **Accreditation Committee**, formerly Accreditation Response Group. This committee consists of all those involved in the production of the Accreditation Self-Evaluation. Its purpose is to work collaboratively to produce the required documents for the college comprehensive visit, collect needed documentation and evidence to support the college efforts in meeting the accreditation standards and providing feedback to the college on areas of needed change that could improve college functions relative to the standards. Any person wanting to join in the accreditation process and serve on any standard will be on the Accreditation Committee.

Questions? Contact:

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Ways to assist Accreditation:

1. Complete the faculty and staff online survey due October 18, 2013.
2. Take the accreditation basics training and enter drawing for ipad
(<http://www.accjc.org/events/accjc-accreditation-training/accreditation-basics-%E2%80%93-an-online-workshop-on-the-basic-principles-of-accreditation>)
3. Attend the Accreditation Committee meeting.
4. Participate in the SLO process in your department (CLO), program (PLO) or institution (IGLOs).
5. Encourage all committees you serve to complete the committee self-evaluation.

Remember that Accreditation is about student success.
