

Accreditation Updates

Solano College, Academic Affairs

Vol. 6, September 2017

Standard IV of the Accreditation Self Evaluation Report focuses on Leadership and Governance. We will also cover the Quality Focus Essay.

Standard IV: Leadership and Governance

The institution recognizes and uses the contributions of leadership throughout the organization for promoting student success, sustaining academic quality, integrity, fiscal stability, and continuous improvement of the institution. . . Through established governance structures, the governing board, administrators, faculty, staff, and students work together for the good of the institution.

Our site visit is

October 2-5, 2017.

To find out more about our visiting team, go to the accreditation page at: solano.edu/accreditation/ and click on "Visiting Team Bios"

QUIZ: HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE COLLEGE'S LEADERSHIP?

1. Members of the College's Governing Board serve ___-year terms.
2. The Superintendent-President is the Chief Executive Officer of the College and is hired by _____.
3. Ongoing training for Board members is an accreditation requirement; SCC accomplishes this partly through monthly _____ at Board meetings, where presenters share various activities or initiatives of the College.
4. Board Policies are developed through the _____ as recommendations which are then forwarded to the Board's Ad Hoc Policy Committee before going to the full Board for approval.
5. Through established governance structures, processes, and practices, _____ work together for the good of the institution.

HOW DID YOU SCORE?? Check out the answers at the bottom of the next page.

CHECK IT OUT – BOARD POLICIES ARE ORGANIZED INTO SERIES:

1000: GOVERNING BOARD
1100: COMMUNITY SERVICES
2000: ADMINISTRATION
3000: BUSINESS SERVICES
4000: HUMAN RESOURCES
5000: STUDENT SERVICES
6000: ACADEMIC AFFAIRS



SCC's Board Policies can be found on the website at:

http://www.solano.edu/district_policies/

Did you Know. . .

. . . Per **Board Policy 1019**, Trustees cannot have a personal financial interest in District contracts. Members must disclose any remote interests and must abstain from voting on any such contracts involving those interests.

QUALITY FOCUS ESSAY (QFE)

The QFE is a new component to the Self-Evaluation Report. As described in ACCJC's *Manual for Institutional Self-Evaluation*, "Within the accreditation focus on continuous quality improvement, the institution will identify two or three areas coming out of the institutional self-evaluation on which the institution has decided to act (action projects), and which will have significance in improving student learning and student achievement over a multi-year period" (page 21). Solano Community College, after collegial collaboration over several months, decided to focus on:

IMPROVING INTEGRATED PLANNING

Despite positive efforts, there is still work to be done in defining the ongoing cycle of evaluation, planning, resource allocation, and implementation. The following efforts are directed toward continuous improvement:

- **Planning Database Management:** A new Office of Research database will help the College track and report on the progress of goals and outcomes
- **Academic Program Review:** The template has been revised to align more closely with accreditation standards and to support the linking of institutional planning to resource allocation
- **Non-Academic Program Review:** The College has taken steps to re-start this process
- **Linking Planning to Resource Allocation:** Institutional planning is re-focused on providing resources to support collaborative efforts to achieve the College mission

IMPROVING STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

SCC has made significant strides around outcomes and assessment. Additional efforts include:

- **SLO Quality Rubric and Assessment Form:** Both were revised by the Assessment Committee
- **Faculty-Created Common Assessment Rubrics:** Helpful for classes with multiple sections
- **Discover Best Practices in Disaggregation of SLO Data:** We need to find ways to look closely at student data in meaningful ways
- **Effective Assessment Management Database:** The upgrade to CurricUNET META will facilitate this

The College is clear in its *Self-Evaluation Report* about areas of needed improvement: if you are asked about this by members of the visiting team, don't be afraid to say, "Yes, we have struggled with some things, but we are working on getting better!"

Accreditation Timeline:

Sept 25 (6pm), 28 (noon)	JUST ADDED: College Accreditation Forums in the College Boardroom
October 2-5	OMG! Accreditation Site Visit! Be on the lookout for additional messages about opportunities to meet with the visiting team – we are awaiting their schedule requests.

The purpose of these updates is to prepare our college community for the upcoming site visit. We hope these updates are informative and encouraging. For questions, please contact:

Accreditation Liaison Officer: David Williams

Accreditation Coordinator: Saki Cabrera

Lead Writer: Melissa Reeve

Or Your Constituency Leaders

Quiz Answers: 1. Four 2. The Governing Board 3. Study Sessions 4. College Governance Council 5. The Governing Board, administrators, faculty, staff, and students (in other words . . . everybody!). Of course the answer is also written in the callout box that heads this newsletter. I guess it's an important point.