

DAS President's Report to the PCCD Board of Trustees for October 23, 2012
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Thank you Mr. President, and good evening trustees, chancellor, district administrative center staff, college presidents, colleagues and members of the public.

Since your last board meeting, Peralta faculty members have participated in an Accrediting Commission workshop and the Area B meeting of the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges. In both settings, we gathered information that is specific to accreditation and useful to the colleges in preparing the follow-up reports that are due in March 2013 and beginning the self evaluation process that will culminate with our next accreditation review.

First, you should know that the Commission has developed an online "Accreditation Basics" workshop covering, as it is entitled, the basic principles of accreditation. The workshop is flexible, self-paced and can be completed at any time that suits a participant's schedule. It is recommended for anyone interested in learning more about accreditation or learning more about the accreditation standards. The workshop, if taken in full, requires approximately two hours. You will find it helpful for expanding your understanding about the accreditation process and your roles in it, especially pertaining to Standard IV on Leadership and Governance, and you can register for the workshop at the ACCJC website, www.accjc.org. It is free. We anticipate making use of this resource ourselves so that self evaluation teams can be well-informed about the purpose and expectations of the process.

One point that was reiterated in several different ways is the ACCJC expectation that assessment be used in a *meaningful* way. That is, the Commission is not so interested in numbers or percentages of courses and programs that have been assessed. Rather, the Commission is emphasizing the importance of the usefulness of assessment data, the effect of outcomes assessment on our instructional and services delivery practices. We've been encouraged to focus on what our plans are for improvement, for comprehensive coverage of all aspects of the institution and how we will actualize these plans.

As the Chancellor just mentioned, the Peralta Colleges have received several important grants to support curriculum development that will help re-train workers, to develop a regional focus on sustainability construction and more. We congratulate our colleagues on these awards and appreciate all the hard work that went into these successes. Now we have begun to focus on the enrollment and curricular impact of these mission-driven grant-funded initiatives in a period of declining state support and increasing curricular restrictions. This need is reflected in at least one of the resolutions that will be presented to the fall plenary of the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges (ASCCC). You will be hearing more about this as we get clearer on the benefits and opportunities these grants provide the colleges.

That concludes my report for tonight. Thank you for receiving it.