



**ACCREDITING
COMMISSION
for COMMUNITY and
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

*Western Association
of Schools and Colleges*

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May 4, 2012

MEMO TO: Chancellors, Chief Executive Officers,
Accreditation Liaison Officers, Chief Instruction
Officers, Chief Student Services Officers,
Academic Senate Presidents and Interested Others

FROM: Michael Rota, Commission Chair *Michael T. Rota*
Barbara A. Beno, President *Barbara A. Beno*

SUBJECT: Review of Accreditation Standards and Practices:
Invitation for Written or Oral Comment at Second
Public Hearing

The 2012-2014 comprehensive review of Accreditation Standards and practices was announced in a letter to the field November 9, 2011. The letter noted significant developments in higher education and invited written comment on Accreditation Standards and practices. In a February 15, 2012 follow-up letter, the Commission invited you to participate in one of three public hearings scheduled for this year and to provide written or oral comments on changes you think may be needed. Member institutions and persons from the public were invited based on geographic proximity to the meeting place.

The second of three public hearings, for member institutions in Northern California, is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, June 6, 2012, beginning at 9:00 a.m., at the SFO Marriott Hotel, 1800 Bayshore Highway, Burlingame, California. The hearing will end when all testimony is heard or at noon. Persons representing ACCJC-accredited institutions in Northern California, from Cuesta College and College of the Sequoias north, are specifically invited to participate in the hearing. A third public hearing will be scheduled for the last week of September to provide opportunity for Hawaiian and Pacific member institutions and the public to comment.

The Commission requests that you encourage student participation in the public hearing, as well as participation from other college constituents and members of the public, including business leaders. Anyone intending to attend the hearing and provide oral comment should let our offices know so that we can accommodate all the individuals who are planning to attend. Please send an email or FAX with name and contact information to the ACCJC.

E-mail: accjc@accjc.org
FAX: 415-506-0238

Attached is a format for input entitled, “Suggestions for Change to the Accreditation Standards and Practices.” This form can be used for written comment and sent to the Commission or for recording comments to be made orally at the public hearing. Respondents should provide their name, title, institutional affiliation or other interest on the form. Presenters making oral comment at the public hearing will be asked to provide the same identifying information for Commission records. The Accreditation Standards and Commission Policies are available on the Commission’s website, www.accjc.org.

Written comments may be mailed, FAXed, or e-mailed to one of the following addresses:

- E-mail: accjc@accjc.org
- FAX: 415-506-0238
- Mail: ACCJC
10 Commercial Boulevard, Suite 204
Novato, CA 94949

The Commission welcomes your thoughts during this important review of our Accreditation Standards and practices.

Attachment

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Suggestions for Change to the Accreditation Standards and Practices 2012

Contact information for Respondent:

Name _____ Title _____

College affiliation or name of other organization you are representing:

1. What changes do you recommend to the **organization and format** of the Accreditation Standards? Please describe changes related to the current organization into four standards, and/or the current outline form. Also include other recommendations concerning the organization and format.
2. What changes do you recommend to **ADD content or concepts** to the Accreditation Standards? Please describe the content and why you think it is important to include the new content or concepts you recommend.
3. What changes do you recommend to **REMOVE content or concepts** from the Accreditation Standards? Please describe the content and why you think it is useful to remove it?
4. What changes do you recommend to the **process or practices** of Accreditation?

Thank you for providing input to us. All input received will be considered by the Commission as it conducts the Review of Accreditation Standards and Practices.

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