Minutes

Oct. 14, 2013
3-4:45 PM, Winlock

Members present: Nabil Abu Ghazaleh; Ken Takeda; Robert Sprague; Mary-Jo Apigo; Rebecca Tillberg; Adrienne Foster; Alice Taylor, chair

I. Minutes of Sept. 9 amended and approved

II. Planning for Fall 2015 External Review of Institutional Self Evaluation

N. Abu Ghazaleh reported that an ACCJC Vice President indicated we should expect a comprehensive visit in Fall 2015. This is not official yet, but he feels the prudent course is to prepare the full Self Evaluation report. Should the Commission also require a Midterm Report with a visit for Spring 2015, our work on the Self Evaluation will serve that requirement as well. He noted that for either report we must review our past recommendations and planning agendas. As a college, we are no longer just reaching for compliance but ready to show how the work we do falls under the Standards as good practice.

M. Apigo noted that the ACCJC website says that new standards should be ready by June 2014. They are not major revisions, and if past practice stands, we will have the option of using the current standards or the new ones for a fall 2015 report. The committee reviewed a draft timeline for producing the Self Study and preparing for the visit.

After discussion and revisions, the Committee adopted the timeline, as attached.

III. Major topics discussed included:

Committee structure.
Meetings for 2013-14, in Winlock, 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM: Sept. 9, Oct. 14, Nov. TBA 11, Dec. 9, Jan. 13, Feb 10, Mar 10, April 14, May 12

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ACCREDITATION STEERING COMMITTEE

N. Abu Ghazaleh’s preference is that we keep the existing Recommendation Workgroups and establish Standards Committees. There will be overlap in these groups’ topics and membership. This is an opportunity to pull in fresh minds, particularly among the recent hires. Furthermore, we should continue to rely on established college (and Senate) committees to do the underlying work and document it. R. Sprague and A. Foster will meet to review a list of committees prepared by R. Sprague’s office with a view towards making each committee aware of the accreditation issues before it. On a parallel track, committee members will bring accreditation issues to the attention of committees.

K. Takeda pointed out that we have committees that correspond nicely to Standard sub-parts, particularly in Standard III. College standing committees should be made aware of accreditation needs and consider how their work documents our meeting of the standards. Evidence arising from committee work needs to be posted and provided to the Steering Committee.

District coordination

N. Abu Ghazaleh announced that Bobbi Kimble has been chosen as Interim Vice Chancellor for Educational Programs and Institutional Effectiveness, replacing Yasmin Delahoussaye. We need to let her know about our decision to move forward on the Self Evaluation and ask for assistance with Board input. R. Sprague will contact her with our timeline.

K. Takeda noted that when all 9 colleges are evaluated in one visit, we will have to be in much closer agreement as to what the role of the District is. District bodies, such as the Technology Council, are working on uniform standards that will help. The mass visit also presents new possibilities for the colleges to support each others’ accreditation preparations.

West Los Angeles College

Accreditation Steering Committee Chair
Alice Taylor

Academic Senate
Adrienne Foster

Administrative Services
Ken Takeda

AFT Faculty Guild
Olga Shewfelt

AFT Staff Guild
Joann Haywood

ALO
Bob Sprague

Facilities
Allan Hansen

Research and Planning
Rebecca Tillberg

SEIU 721 Steward
Abel Rodriguez

Student Services
Phyllis Braxton

President
Nabil Abu-Ghazaleh

Workgroup leaders

Recommendations 1 & 2
Rebecca Tillberg

Recommendations 3 & 4
Mary-Jo Apigo
Todd Matosic

Recommendation 5
Kathy Walton

Recommendation 6
Kathy Walton
Judy Chow

Recommendation 7
Rebecca Tillberg

2006 Recommendation 13
Adrienne Foster
Olga Shewfelt
R. Tillberg suggested that the District may need additional staff to handle accreditation, and N. Abu Ghazaleh noted that we should be aware of when to ask for help.

**Data needs.**

We will use the regularly-administered surveys to the maximum extent possible. West’s Campus Climate was done in Spring 2013 and will be repeated in 2015; The District Student Survey was done in Spring 2012 and will next be administered in Fall 2014.

IV. Questions from the Educational Master Plan Workgroup:

The committee reviewed a draft response. The edited version is attached. A. Taylor agreed to circulate it for comment before submitting it to the Workgroup.

V. Updates

1. R. Tillberg summarized the findings Nathan Tharp presented from his EdD dissertation on college cultures and accreditation.

2. A. Foster noted that the ACCJC is hosting a session on at the ASCCC Fall Plenary in Irvine Nov. 7.