



Accreditation Talk

Classified Senate

December 2, 2021

What is the deal with accreditation?

- What is it?
- Who cares?
- What is Classified Senate's role?
- Why should I be interested?

What is accreditation?

- Collegial process of self-review and peer review for the improvement of academic quality and public accountability of institutions and programs. (CHEA)

What is accreditation?

- System of voluntary, non-governmental, self-regulation, and peer review unique to American educational institutions. An institution evaluates itself in accordance with standards of good practice regarding mission goals, and objectives. (ACCJC)

What is accreditation?

- Process by which the institution reflects on and publicly demonstrates effective use of instruction, services, resources, operations in continuing and ongoing efforts to serve students better

Why care about accreditation?

- Ensures academic quality and continuous improvement
- Effectiveness demonstrated through ongoing integrated planning and evaluation
- Supporting student learning and achievement

Why care about accreditation?

- Student transcripts are transferrable
- Student credentials/awards are accepted
- Maintains federal financial aid eligibility
- Quality assurance
 - Colleges meet the standards

Why care about accreditation?

- Losing accreditation can lead to:
 - Decline in enrollment
 - Reduction in funding
 - Elimination of staffing

What's involved in accreditation?

- Compliance
- Improvement

Key Players: Everyone!

- Administrators
- Classified Staff
- Faculty
- Students

Accreditation + Classified Senate

- Part of participatory governance role
- Supports efforts to align student learning and support services
- Supports efforts to document effective use/allocation of resources
- Provides leadership and contributes to supporting continuous improvement for the college to realize its mission

What's up with the mission statement?

- Statement of what the college does and who it serves
- Framework for all institutional goals and activities
- Considers how, why, and for who we do our work

Introducing the ISER!

December 15, 2023

- Institutional Self-Evaluation Report
 - Part of the 7-year accreditation cycle
- Written report which is an institutional self-reflection demonstrating how the college complies with the standards
 - Honest assessment of strengths and weaknesses
 - Evidence of meeting the college mission

Accreditation + You

- Consider getting involved
- Learn more about the college
- Reflect on how we help students reach their educational goals

Accreditation + You

- How are we student-centered?
- How are we meeting the students where they are at?
- How can we improve how we carry out our work?
- Earn PGA hours

Accreditation + You

- ISER Teams (in a group setting)
 - Gathering evidence
 - Discussing the evidence
 - Writing
- Supporting the ISER process
 - Position-specific responsibilities

Next Steps

- Winter 2022
 - Info Session
 - Kickoff Meeting

ISER Timeline

- Fall 2021: Accreditation Professional Development/Info Sessions [ACCJC Training: 10/21]
- Winter 2022: Kickoff
- Spring 2022: Identify evidence, focusing on areas needing clarification/more information
- Fall 2022: Identifying additional/supplemental evidence and draft ISER outline
- Winter 2023: Writing ISER
- Spring 2023: Draft for college feedback and approval
- Summer 2023: Editing and Formatting
- Fall 2023: Board approval and submission to ACCJC
- Spring 2024: Formative Comprehensive Review
- Fall 2024: Summative Comprehensive Review

Thanks!

References

- ACCJC: Accreditation Standards (Annotated)
- ACCJC: Eligibility Requirements
- Council for Higher Education Accreditation