

Press Release

3:00 p.m., October 9, 2015. Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (ACCJC), 10 Commercial Blvd., Suite 204, Novato, CA 94949; 415-506-0234; accjc@accjc.org.

Comment on ACCJC Special Meeting

The ACCJC held a Special Meeting today in Sacramento, to receive input from the field related to the 2015 Report of the Chancellor's Office Task Force on Accreditation. Thirty-three attendees, representing college faculty, administrators, education organizations, and members of the public, participated in the public session. Thirteen individuals offered oral comment, and several others provided written input. While the points of view varied, there was a consistent message of support for the peer evaluation process.

The general theme across comments was the need for the Commission to engage in self-reflection and improvement in areas of transparency, collaboration, and communication. The Commissioners met in closed session following the public comment, to discuss the input received and to consider next steps. Commissioners expressed appreciation for the efforts extended by those providing comments, noting the benefit of these exchanges for identifying areas in which ACCJC can be responsive to the field. The Commissioners took action to schedule listening sessions across the state in the coming weeks, including one to be held at Bakersfield College on October 30 and another on November 13 at the Rancho Santiago Community College District Office, among others. The Commission will also be disseminating a survey to obtain broader comment from member institutions and their constituents, and has begun considering aspects of its closed session meetings that can be moved to public session to provide for greater public involvement. Further details and information about these events and actions will be posted on the ACCJC website early next week.

Additional information about the ACCJC and its accreditation standards and practices can be found on its website at: www.accjc.org.