



STANDARD I
MISSION, ACADEMIC QUALITY
& INSTITUTIONAL
EFFECTIVENESS, & INTEGRITY



STANDARD II
STUDENT LEARNING
PROGRAMS AND
SUPPORT SERVICES



STANDARD III
RESOURCES



STANDARD IV
LEADERSHIP AND
GOVERNANCE

ACCREDITATION MATTERS

18-Month Reaffirmation of Accreditation

In July, ACCJC notified West that the Commission acted to reaffirm accreditation for eighteen months and to require a Follow-Up Report on the issues identified in the findings of noncompliance at the District. LACCD was found to be out of compliance on seven Standards. The letter from ACCJC and the complete External Evaluation Report can be found on the WLAC Accreditation website at <http://www.wlac.edu/WLAC-Accreditation/2016-Report.aspx>.

West will be working closely with our eight sister colleges and the district office to bring the district into compliance on these Standards this academic year. Our Follow-Up Report, which is due to ACCJC on October 1, 2017, should be ready for approval by College Council and Academic Senate prior to the end of the academic year. A final draft of the report will go to the Board of Trustees for approval over the summer.

In addition to addressing the seven District recommendations, West will report on actions taken in response to the four recommendations for improvement the college received:

1. Adopt consistent practices that allow for routine evaluation of course level data for the purposes of program review;
2. Implement a process to ensure consistency of student learning outcomes in syllabi in the associated course outlines of record;
3. Implement a process to ensure consistency between the course outline of record and the distant education addendum;
4. Develop a formal process for evaluating the administrative structure of the college.

The External Evaluation Team commended West for its:

- Broad publication of its mission to the campus community. WLAC should be commended for the work of the Digital Design Studio, which includes creation of these YouTube videos supporting student learning and enhancing achievement of the mission;
- Building a support framework of resources to move the College into the next level of student learning outcome assessment;
- Earning the Achieving the Dream Leader College distinction for their commitment to closing achievement gaps;
- Developing 10 accelerated transfer pathway programs to guarantee acceptance into Cal State Dominguez Hills;
- Implementing the successful "West Expressway" program;
- Continuous training and support through the Tech Fair program;
- Participatory Governance and Planning Handbook, which is a clear and helpful reference guide to the College's decision-making processes;
- Spirit of collegiality and mutual respect that was evidenced among all of the participants interviewed; the College's participatory governance system is palpable and invaluable; and
- Commitment to sincere dialogue and embracing the college mission and its commitment to equity. The College links equity to the mission through an authentic campus-wide ongoing discussion.

Accreditation Calendar 2016-17

August 2016

- **Revised College Mission Statement Goes to Board of Trustees for Approval**
- **Special Report on the Baccalaureate Goes to Senate and College Council for Approval**
- Accreditation Standards Workgroups Formed
- District Accreditation Committee Begins Follow-Up Report

September 2016

- **Special Report on the Baccalaureate Goes to Board of Trustees for Approval**
- Accreditation Standards Workgroups Begin Work
- **Special Report on the Baccalaureate Goes to ACCJC**
- District Accreditation Committee Meets
- QFE Goals Are Undertaken and Documented:
 - PIE and College Council Continue Evaluation of Progress on Major College Plans and Processes
 - Dean of Teaching and Learning and the Professional Learning Committee Establish an Exemplary Professional Learning Program and Offer Training in Learner-Centered Teaching Strategies
 - SLO Committee Documents Improvement of Frequency and Quality of Dialogue about SLOs and SAOs

October/November/December 2016

- **ACCJC and U.S. Department of Education Site Visit for Baccalaureate Program**
- Accreditation Standards Workgroups Continue
- District Accreditation Committee Meets

December 2016

- **Accreditation Standards Workgroups Report to Accreditation Steering Committee**
- District Accreditation Committee Meets

January 2017

- ACCJC Substantive Change Committee Acts on the Special Report and Site Visit
- District Accreditation Committee Meets

February/March 2017

- Accreditation Standards Workgroups Continue
- District Accreditation Committee Meets
- QFE Goals Are Undertaken and Documented:
 - Training in Learner-Centered Teaching Strategies Begins
 - SLO Committee Documents that SLO Assessment and Dialogue Results Are Applied to the Improvement of Curriculum and Teaching

April 2017

- **Accreditation Standards Workgroups Deliver Final Written Reports to Accreditation Steering Committee**
- District Accreditation Committee Meets

May 2017

- **Draft of Follow-Up Report Completed**
- District Accreditation Committee Meets

May/June 2017

- **Follow-Up Report Goes to Senate and College Council for Approval**
- District Accreditation Committee Meets
- **PIE, College Council, SLO, and Professional Learning Committees Submit Reports on QFE Progress to the Accreditation Steering Committee**

Summer 2017

- **Follow-Up Report Goes to Board of Trustees for Approval**

September 2017

- **Follow-Up Report Sent to ACCJC**

ACCJC Site Visit This Fall

At its January 21, 2016 meeting, the ACCJC Substantive Change Committee approved West's proposal to offer a baccalaureate degree in Dental Hygiene. The first cohort of baccalaureate students are enrolling this fall, and West will be conferring its first bachelor's degrees at the June 2018 graduation ceremony!

ACCJC's continued approval of the baccalaureate degree is contingent upon a Special Report on the Baccalaureate Degree, due to the Commission on October 1, 2016, and a site visit this fall. The dates of the site visit have not yet been announced, but West has been informed that a representative from the U.S. Department of Education will be accompanying the visiting team. We are sure that we were chosen for this honor because West is an exemplary college.

Opportunities to Get Involved

The Accreditation Steering Committee (ASC) meets on the second Monday of the month in Winlock Lounge. The dates of fall meetings are to the right. All meetings are open to the campus community.

The ASC will be forming Standards Workgroups to address the issues identified in ACCJC's recommendations and to draft responses for the Follow-Up Report. While issues will be addressed in West's standing committees (Curriculum Committee, for example, will address the recommendations related to course outlines of record), the workgroups will look at how improvements to processes can be made across divisions or committee functions in order to continue to meet the standards that ACCJC has established.

You are encouraged to read the External Evaluation Report to see where West's strengths lie, as well as where ACCJC sees room for improvement. If you're interested in joining a workgroup related to one of these recommendations, please contact Kimberly Manner (mannerke@wlaac.edu) or one of the Accreditation Steering Committee members (listed in the column to the right).

Accreditation Steering Committee

Fall 2016 Meetings

September 12, 2016

October 10, 2016

November 14, 2016

December 12, 2016

Accreditation Steering Committee Chair
Kimberly Manner

ALO, Co-Chair
Ara Aguiar

Academic Senate
Adrienne Foster

Administrative Services
Iris Ingram

Student Services
Michael Goltermann

AFT Faculty Guild
Olga Shewfelt

AFT Staff Guild
Kimberly Davillier

Teamsters
Mary-Jo Apigo

Facilities
Bill Smith

Research and Planning
Rebecca Tillberg

President
Bob Sprague

SEIU 721
Antoinette Simpson

ASO
(Vacant)

Evidence Management
(Vacant)