

# ACCREDITATION NOTES

Mar. 2009 Issue 2

## *An Update on the Mt. San Antonio College Accreditation Self-Study*

### We Have Begun!

The Self-Study Standard Teams have started writing *Mt. SAC's Accreditation Self-Study*, and we want to share a description of each of the standards about which we write. As we address each of the standards, we will thread the following themes through our narrative: Institutional Commitments; Evaluation, Planning, and Improvement; Student Learning Outcomes; Organization; Dialogue; and Institutional Integrity.

### What are the Standards?

#### STANDARD I:

#### **INSTITUTIONAL MISSION AND EFFECTIVENESS**

In addressing this standard, we will articulate the mission of Mt. SAC and will evaluate how we commit to and achieve this mission. In addition, we will assess the overall effectiveness of our institution. Standard I Co-chairs **Grace Hanson** and **Dr. Kimberly Earhart** have found that Mt. SAC has demonstrated excellence in Standard I.B.1: improved dialogue.



They cite the following examples as evidence: Recent efforts on the part of the Academic Senate President and the Faculty Association President have been effective. A comparison of the 2008 to 2004 Shared Governance Survey reveals an improvement in the respondents' perceptions of communication within and about shared governance processes. About 73% of respondents believed they were receiving the "right amount" of communication with their participatory governance reps as compared to 58.6% in 2004. About 64.4% of respondents said they received the "right amount" of information about the major issues currently being addressed by participatory governance representatives as opposed to 47.4% in 2004.

#### **Way to go, Mt. SAC!**

#### STANDARD II:

#### **STUDENT LEARNING PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

In addressing this standard, we will evaluate the instructional, student support, and library services that we offer our students at Mt. SAC. It is this standard that has a strong focus on our use of student learning outcomes. Standard II Co-chairs **Dr. Virginia Burley** and **Gary Enke** have found that Mt. SAC has demonstrated excellence in Standard II.A.2.d: teaching for diverse needs. They cite the following examples as evidence: Mt. SAC offers a variety of tutorial services



# ACCREDITATION NOTES

in a variety of subject areas and offers learning community programs to its students. In addition, services for re-entry students and for those desiring to develop skills for the workforce are offered. Service Learning courses are available, too.

**Wonderful work, Mt. SAC!**



## STANDARD III: **STUDENT LEARNING PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

In addressing this standard, we will evaluate Mt. SAC's effectiveness in using human, physical, technology, and financial resources. Our evaluation will include comments about how our planning of these resources fits with the overall plan of our institution. Standard III Co-chairs **Dr. Terri Long** and **Gary Nellesen** have found that Mt. SAC has demonstrated excellence in Standard III.A.3.a: fairness. They cite the following examples as evidence: Mt. SAC's Administrative Procedures, the Faculty Agreement, and the Classified Agreements all have included policies about employment procedures and our commitment to fairness. **Great job, Mt. SAC!**

## STANDARD IV: **LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE**

In addressing this standard, we will evaluate the leadership of Mt. SAC and its efforts to improve our institution. In addition, we will assess Mt. SAC's governance process, including the function of the Board of Trustees. Standard IV Co-chairs **Jennifer Galbraith** and **Dr. Dyrell Foster** have found that Mt. SAC has demonstrated excellence in Standard IV.B.2.e: communication with communities by the President. They cite the following examples as evidence: President **John Nixon** has met with nearly all—if not all—of the College's mayors/city councils and superintendents and/or boards of education. He, as well as other campus leaders, belongs to and communicates with local service groups (e.g., Rotary), business and economic development organizations, as well as community, legislative, and community leaders. He was also instrumental in forming the new regional coalition of community colleges that advocates for public policies that benefit local colleges and their students. In addition, Mt. SAC is often a sponsor of key community events.

**Way to be a leader, Mt. SAC!**

