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District Colleges Receive Accreditation Affirmation

MARTINEZ, CA – All three colleges of the Contra Costa Community College District (District) – Contra Costa College, Diablo Valley College and Los Medanos College – received accreditation affirmation from the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (Commission) earlier this month.

The Commission notified the colleges that their accreditation has been approved for another six-year term and required each college to submit a follow-up report by October 2015, followed by a visit by Commission representatives.

“I am so proud of our colleges for attaining an excellent response from the Commission,” stated Chancellor Helen Benjamin. “The accreditation process requires participation and tremendous effort by faculty, staff, and students, and tells the communities we serve that our colleges are doing the right things to serve our students successfully.”

Preparation for the accreditation visits began in 2013 and included a comprehensive review and self-evaluation that is submitted to the Commission. The self-evaluation reports, along with the visits by Commission representatives, provide the foundation for the Commission’s decisions.
"During the past 20 years as a member of the Governing Board, I can attest to the incredible ongoing effort necessary to achieve this recognition of excellence," said Governing Board President John T. Nejedly. “The Commission’s recognition to affirm all three colleges’ accreditation is a testament to the employees of the District who work so hard at providing the best for our students.”

The accreditation process is conducted not only to assure the quality of the institution, but also to encourage institutional improvement. Commendations and areas of improvement are included in the decision, and all accredited institutions are expected to use the report to improve their educational programs and services.

Accreditation is a voluntary process colleges and universities undergo to evaluate and assure the quality of education used by the American higher education community – and to subsequently make those results known to the public. The Commission is one of 8 regional agencies that evaluates and accredits public and private postsecondary institutions that offer two-year education programs and award the associate degree.

For all the details of the accreditation process and reports, visit the following links.

Contra Costa College:  
http://www.contracosta.edu/home/about/accreditation/

Diablo Valley College:  
http://www.dvc.edu/about/accreditation/index.html

Los Medanos College:  
http://www.losmedanos.edu/accreditation/

The Contra Costa Community College District (CCCCD) is one of the largest multi-college community college districts in California. The CCCCĐ serves a population of 1,019,640 people, and its boundaries encompass all but 48 of the 734-square-mile land area of Contra Costa County. The District is home to Contra Costa College in San Pablo, Diablo Valley College in Pleasant Hill, Los Medanos College in Pittsburg, as well as educational centers in Brentwood and San Ramon. The District headquarters is located in downtown Martinez.

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