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Accreditation Visits

Last month, the District Office and its three colleges hosted visiting teams for four days as they conducted an external evaluations as part of the accreditation process. The teams, assigned by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (ACCJC/WASC), reviewed the colleges' self-study reports, validated the assertions and findings, and will recommend the level of accreditation to be approved.



As members of the ACCJC/WASC, Diablo Valley College (DVC), Los Medanos College (LMC), and Contra Costa College (CCC) undergo a review every six years to determine whether they meet the 21 eligibility requirements, accreditation standards and ACCJC/WASC policies. Though the process is voluntary, accreditation enables an institution to qualify for federal grants, contracts, and to distribute federal financial aid. In order to evaluate whether an institution meets the standards, four review steps are completed: Self-Evaluation; External Evaluation; Commission Review and Accreditation Action; and Institutional (College) Continuous Quality Improvement.

Ted Wieden, DVC's accreditation liaison officer, was very proud of the way the DVC community joined together during the accreditation visit. "Besides being a lot of work, it was immensely gratifying to see the college come together and work very hard to present DVC's story and support it with ample evidence," said Wieden. "It took the support of a great many people at DVC to not only prepare the self-evaluation report, but also get the college ready for the team visit."

"The pre-visit by the team chair and team assistant set the tone of the visit – professional, collaborative and friendly," shared **Kiran Kamath**, LMC's accreditation liaison officer. "We had had several college assemblies over the last two years and everyone was well informed. The college was very well prepared and organized for the visit."

For a review of the college self-study and detailed information on next steps, visit the respective college websites:

CCC - <http://www.contracosta.edu/home/about/accreditation/>

DVC - <http://www.dvc.edu/about/accreditation/index.html>

LMC - <http://www.losmedanos.edu/accreditation/>



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Your comments
and suggestions are
welcome. E-mail the
Communications and
Community Relations
Office at info@4cd.edu.



Convocation on Innovation #3

The Convocation on Innovation (COI) is just a couple of months away and the planning team is building an exciting and thought-provoking day for you. Please register for the event by accessing the COI portal page from the [CCCCD homepage](#) and selecting the COI item under *What's New in the District*. For planning purposes, it is extremely important to complete the online registration process. The schedule will be shared with you next month.

Contra Costa Community College District



January 9, 2015

In the chancellor's most recent message, she focused on the third key concept in the COI mission statement – creative confidence. To sustain a culture of innovation, the District must believe in the ability to create change around itself and explore and discover ways to invite creativity in a culture that is otherwise driven by mandates and compliance.

To help with this concept, two videos were shared. The first video features David Kelley, founder of IDEO, who completed a 11:46 minute long TED talk on creative confidence: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=16p9YRF0l-g>

The second link is to a video scribe project on creative confidence that is 14:21 minutes long: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ARHlVtVsNzI>

As mentioned in earlier communications, the event will take place at the Hilton Concord. Parking at the hotel is limited, so arrangements have been made to park (free of charge) at Waterworld USA, 1950 Waterworld Parkway, Concord, which is right next door to the hotel. Bus shuttles will take you to and from the hotel.

If you have any questions regarding the COI, please contact **Sally Montemayor Lenz** at 1-6826 or **Andrea Medina** at 1-6852.

District Welcomes New Employees

Please welcome the following new employees who were approved by the Governing Board in October.

Regular Monthly Classified Employees

Location	Name	Title
CCC	Arminda Calagui	Senior Administrative Secretary
CCC	Anna Chuon	Instructional Assistant
CCC	Brandy Gibson	Tutoring Services Coordinator
DST	Kristy Myers	Senior Payroll Clerk
CCC	Charles Hankins	Police Services Officer

District Participates in Great American Shakeout

On October 16, 2014, the Contra Costa Community College District joined millions of Californians in the “Great California Shakeout,” the largest earthquake drill in the world. Commencing at 10:16 a.m., the drill required participants to “Drop, Cover, and Hold” as practice for a major earthquake.

The emergency drill originated in California in 2008 and takes place every third Thursday in October. By participating in the drill, businesses, organizations and individuals have the opportunity to practice what to do before, during and after an earthquake.

At CCC, students, faculty and staff conducted an emergency evacuation of the Student Services Center and Career Technology buildings. Police Services at LMC and DVC joined in by testing the District’s emergency telephone broadcast system. Additional earthquake preparedness information was shared via email and social media to round out the collective safety drill training.

For more information on the Great California Shakeout, visit <http://www.shakeout.org/california/>.



Police Services’ officer **Charles Hankins** provides feedback to CCC participants on what to do following a major earthquake.

Board Report

To review highlights of the Governing Board Meeting held in October 2014, click on the link below:

http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/board_reports/October%208,%202014.pdf

Cabinet Highlights

To review highlights of the Cabinet meeting held in October 2014, click on the link below:

http://www.4cd.edu/crpa/chancellors_cabinet/October%202014.pdf

The Contra Costa Community College District, founded in 1948 and governed by a publicly elected five-member board, is one of the largest multi-college community college districts in California. The mission of the District is to attract and transform students and communities by providing accessible, innovative and outstanding higher education learning opportunities and support services.