COS ACCREDITATION RESPONSE TASK FORCE TO BE APPOINTED THIS WEEK

As announced last week we will be appointing members to the Accreditation Response Task Force (RTF) this week. The RTF will serve as the official body of the college to guide and develop the 2013 Accreditation Report now required in response to the "Show Cause" order from the ACCJC. The RTF will operate under the authority of the COS Board of Trustees through the COS superintendent/president as the Board's designee.

The RTF will be charged with the responsibility to study all 2012 accreditation recommendations from the ACCJC order to “Show Cause,” and develop/revise and implement any policies/procedures/plans/timelines/actions necessary to fully comply with all ACCJC requirements by October 15, 2013. The RTF will meet weekly to develop and monitor an ongoing agenda of tasks, timelines and implementation progress. Meeting notes will be maintained and published for all faculty, staff, students via COS eNEWS.

In addition, the RTF will delegate work to sub-groups of the full task force. Subgroups will further engage and collaborate with the greater college community (Senate, College Council, unions - all of us will be involved and affected) including faculty, staff and students by making opportunities available through meetings, forums, surveys, etc., for broader involvement and participation. Sub-group meetings, surveys, processes will be recorded in sub-group notes and published via COS eNEWS.

Public reports of the RTF progress will be made to the COS Board of Trustees at each of their regularly scheduled meetings throughout the duration of this process. The COS president/superintendent will also be reporting to the Accreditation Community Advisory Committee (ACAC) made up of civic/business leaders from throughout our district including our three campus cities, Visalia, Hanford and Tulare. The ACAC is also being appointed this week and will begin meeting every two weeks throughout the duration of this process. We have begun the creation of a page on our COS website dedicated to the RTF progress and all information related to our accreditation response efforts.

The COS Public Information office will maintain a regular schedule of reports to the public through a publication entitled, “COS Accreditation: Countdown to Success.” This publication will highlight ongoing activities of the COS Accreditation Response Task Force, Academic Senate, College Council and COS employee unions.

For the sake of time the president’s office will use email to contact faculty/staff/managers/students who we hope will consider serving on the RTF by the end of the day today. More to follow...

Most respectfully,

Stan A. Carrizosa