**COS ACCREDITATION UPDATE**

**Accreditation Response Task Force (RTF)**
Our COS RTF met again yesterday for their second weekly meeting and the following list is a report of the discussion/tasks/actions in our accreditation efforts:

- Subgroups were reminded of the importance of staying focused on the specific recommendations/standards required for compliance in the ACCJC report.
- Subgroups can compile a list of other areas of concern that we can continue to work on following our reaffirmation of accreditation.
- Subgroups have set their weekly meeting schedules and will submit agendas and meeting notes to be posted on our accreditation webpage.
- Subgroups were asked to make recommendations for action and requests for support/resources to VP La Serna as our official Accreditation Liaison Officer.
- Subgroups will compile a binder of accreditation evidence to be included in our final report once drafted.
- We will be engaging appropriate technical/consultant support in the next two weeks to review and help guide the work of the RTF and all subgroups.
- A COS team is scheduled to visit Cuesta college in the next two weeks to meet with their administration and faculty. **Forgive my misspell on earlier email.**
- Thanks to all for working so hard on this team effort!

**Accreditation Community Advisory Committee (ACAC)**
We held the first meeting of the ACAC this morning and 15 of our 20 representatives attended. We reviewed the purpose and function of the ACAC and a proposed schedule for their regular meetings. They will meet every two weeks for an update on the RTF and subgroups. They are invited to attend any/all committee meetings at every level. They received a schedule of all RTF meetings. They offered input on additional outreach strategies and important community education strategies. The tone was one of tremendous care and support of COS and a willingness to be our advocates and take whatever steps needed throughout our communities to assure a successful accreditation!

**Employee Union Activities**
Representatives from each of our COS employee groups have been invited to accept appointment to the Response Task Force. While the accreditation sanctions do not give authority for the college to undermine or circumvent the terms and conditions of the union contracts we have reached out to all our unions to join the RTF and our efforts to assure COS remains a fully accredited institution.

- **College of the Sequoias Adjunct Faculty Association** (COSAFA): Volunteer members have been appointed and are attending regular RTF meetings and contributing to subgroup efforts. COSAFA President Don Nikkel is sending weekly updates to all adjunct faculty on the status of the RTF process and how adjunct can stay informed and participate on subgroup activities.
California School Employees Association (CSEA): Volunteer members have been appointed and are attending regular RTF meetings and contributing to subgroup efforts. CSEA officers are sending updates to all staff on the status of the RTF process.

College of the Sequoias Teachers Association (COSTA): Volunteer representative has been appointed to the RTF and we hope will start attending soon. Our district is continuing to work through the legal due process to resolve the following COSTA grievances on public file on our HR office and currently pending:

1. **Faculty Parking Permits**: Challenging the district’s decision to issue a free annual parking pass to each faculty member instead of honoring the same pass over multiple years. Claim is a loss of faculty benefit and advantage.

2. **Program Review Process**: Challenging the time spent by faculty to do their annual Program Review process (developed & approved by the Academic Senate) and requesting to be paid extra for this time. SMC-11-0336

3. **Re-assigned Time**: Challenging the administration’s annual allocation of Re-assigned time to faculty who administer grant programs. Claim is that this is excessive Re-assigned Time as offered to fellow faculty members. CSMC-11-0487

4. **Workplace Email Guidelines**: Challenging our District’s implementation of standard workplace protocols for use of the internal college email system. Claim is a loss of benefit and professional advantage. CSMC-12-0233

5. **Collective Bargaining Due Process**: Challenging the right of the elected Board of Trustees to implement a cap on the amount our District will pay toward annual employee health insurance premiums. Claim is that Board did not properly disclose the details of their intent to negotiate such a settlement during the period of good faith negotiations over the past two years. CSMC-12-0130

6. **Faculty Payroll Deduction**: Challenging our District’s action to deduct faculty contributions to annual premiums costs through payroll deduction.

7. **Non-Classroom Faculty Work Schedules**: Challenging the right for a supervisor to approve and monitor a Counselor’s daily 7-hour work schedule. CSMC-12-1054

8. **2013 Summer School**: Challenging our District’s decision to create a new, modified schedule to reinstate summer school for 2013 within the limited funds authorized by the COS Board through our Fiscal Solvency Plan. Claim is that Faculty should have more involvement in setting their summer time schedules and classes offered.

Respectfully,

*Stan A. Carrizosa*