## What's New at ACCJC?

# Association of College Business Officials Spring Conference, 2018



#### Welcome and Introductions

- Mr. Fred Williams, Vice Chancellor of Finance and Facilities, North Orange County Community College District
- Mr. Jim Austin, Fiscal Review Consultant, Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges
- Dr. Stephanie Droker, Vice President, Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges



#### Focus of the Session

- Role of the CBO
- ACCJC Basics
- Moving Forward
- Fiscal Oversight Issues
  - Versus the Comprehensive Review of Colleges
  - Timing of the Review of Standards
- ACCJC Resources
- Discussion Questions and Answers



## Role of the CBO

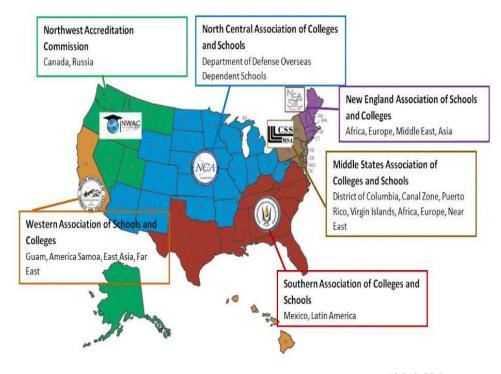
- Institutional Self-Evaluation Report (ISER)
  - Operations
  - Standards
- Annual Fiscal Report
- Involvement with ACCJC
  - Peer Review Teams
  - Input to Processes
  - ACBO Representatives
  - ACCJC Evaluation





#### ACCJC 101

- What is the ACCJC?
  - Regional Accreditor (1 of 7)
  - 1 Region, 2 Agencies
- Why do we exist?
  - Gatekeepers to Federal Financial Aid
  - Quality Assurance





#### Commitment to Peer Review

- Peer review is acknowledged as the most appropriate and desirable approach to evaluate the complex environment of higher education
  - Serves as a rich and diverse resource for quality improvement
  - Uses academic inquiry to inform best practices of institutions for quality improvement
  - Results are used to further articulate the meaning of such practices within the higher education context and allows for the evolution of policies and practices
  - Is frequently at odds with governmental-directed assessment which relies on standardization of expectations and a quantitative analysis approach that may not fully capture the nuances of complex phenomena, such as student outcomes
    - "Fox guarding the hen house"
    - Watchdog without any bite



#### **ACCJC: Lessons Learned**

- Non-collegial
- Prescriptive
- Redundancy/cumbersome fiscal data reporting
- Failed attempt at effective ACBO participation



"You got an 'F' in all of your subjects. How can they call this a 'progress' report?"



## ACCJC: More Effective, More Responsive

- Approach to Peer Review The Right Frame of Mind
  - Dual purpose of compliance and improvement
    - College aligns to the standard vs. looking for deficiencies
  - Mission centered
    - Don't all CA Community Colleges have the same mission?
  - Celebrate the College, Support the College, Help the College
    - Commendations and recommendations
- New Directions
  - VP Portfolio Model
  - Improved resources and trainings
    - Practitioners from member institutions
  - Strategic Planning and Evaluation





## Moving Forward – ACCJC Fiscal Oversight

- FY 17/18 status and timeline
- Reconstitution of fiscal advisory committee collaboration and participation
- Simplification, coordination with CCCCO and FCMAT
- Listening and learning



## Fiscal Oversight Issues

- What is "Fiscal Health"
- How is Fiscal Health evaluated? The Composite Financial Index
  We'll get to the CPI after this slide
- GASB/OPEB
- Annual Fiscal Report questionnaire contents
- Need for a mid year review, not one year after the fact
- Colleges in a multi-college district



## Composite Financial Index (CFI)

- Source of data
  - College Annual Fiscal Reports (AFR)
  - District audits
- CFI uses 12 factors to create a Fiscal Health Index number
- Only 3 factors are college based
- Ending balances, revenues, revenue/expenses important
- CFI used to assign one of 3 fiscal health/risk factors
  - N: No follow-up or monitoring recommended
  - M: Enhanced Monitoring recommended
  - R: Referred for comprehensive peer-review analysis and consultation



## Composite Financial Index Resources Posted on Conference Website

- 1. Getting Started 2018 Annual Fiscal Report
  - The data entry form that is the source of data for the CFI calculation starts on P.3
- 2. ACCJC Composite Financial Index Flow Chart, 5-7-18
  - For each Criteria the number of the source box in the data entry form is identified
- 3. CFI Description Description of Criteria and Calculations
  - Describes the calculations and explains why the factors are included in the CFI



#### **ACCJC** Resources

- ACCJC Website: accjc.org
  - Publications
    - Guide to Evaluating and Improving Institutions
    - Manual for Institutional Self-Evaluation
  - Become a peer reviewer, please!
    - Peer review is both a privilege and obligation
    - New Peer Reviewer Form
  - 2019 ACCJC Conference
    - Save the dates April 30 May 3, 2019



## Discussion and Questions





### Thank You!

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