

Outside Oversight of California Community Colleges

There is more detail in this presentation than will be covered in-person in the ACBO Institute. The additional detail is provided for the future reference of the Institute participants.

Examples of Outside Oversight

- Federal, mostly financial aid
- CCCCO
- ACCJC
- Citizens Oversight Committees
- The Press
- The Public
- Auditors
- Financial Community
- Other

Federal Oversight

- Mostly in terms of financial aid
- Accreditation and the concept of peer evaluation have been an issue

CCCO

- California Community Colleges Chancellors Office
- Lots of formal and informal oversight
- Annual district audit plus multiple specific program audits
- Fiscal status reports (CCFS 311 and CCFS 320)
- Various required reports, especial for categorical programs
- See also PowerPoint *320and311 Reports*

ACCJC

- Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges
- Accreditation required in order to grant credit and degrees and for the students to receive financial aid
- Much more on this subject in Session II

Citizens Oversight Committees

- Most frequently associated with Proposition 39 General Obligation Bonds
- Prop. 39 funding requires an Independent Citizens Bond Oversight Committee and specifies its minimum composition
- An ICBOC can be great, good or ugly, largely depending on its care and nurturing by the college/district

The Press

- Never underestimate the press
- Never underestimate the ability of a small and irate one-issue constituency to influence the press – in one small district basically two irate individuals working with one writer cost a district over \$5 million, cost the majority of the board to be defeated and the chancellor her career.
- In heavily organized labor districts it can be very difficult for the district administration to tell its story, especially concerning collective bargaining

The Public

- Elects the board members and approves/disapproves general obligation bonds
- Can force special elections and impose term limits
- Individuals can be very active when aroused – elimination or reduction of life enrichment classes
- Several categorical C.T.E. programs require advisory boards, e.g. Nursing

Auditors

- Many types of district audits, including:
 - The general institution audit
 - Prop. 39 financial audit
 - Prop. 39 performance audit
 - Financial aid programs
 - Specific audits demanded by aroused public constituencies (rare)
 - See also PowerPoint: *Audits and Financial Statements*

Financial Community

- Only one CCC district has not passed at least one general obligation bond
- Many districts also have combined to pass annual TRANS bonds
- The availability of bond funding and the cost to borrow funds is determined by a district's credit rating
- The financial community primarily depends on the annual audited financial statements which are not used by any internal constituencies

Other

- Can you think of other types of oversight?
- Collective bargaining organizations?
- Construction unions?
- Free speech organizations?
- Alternative sexual identity organizations?
- And.....

Now, What Might You Do If.....

- Your district's 2017-18 audit is completed and submitted to the Audit Clearing House and the Prop. 39 ICBOC's audit is also complete, and both contain no issues with the expenditure of your Prop. 39 bond proceeds, but.....
- A disgruntled community member who wanted your bond to pay for a community "joint use" swimming pool that is not in the board-approved master plan has been snooping around and discovered that three district employees were being partially paid from the bond proceeds (they were legally being paid) and he gives you a heads-up that he has notified the media to come to the next board meeting to hear her expose?
- Your strategies????

THE END

- Thank you for your attention