A Message from the President

SACS and Strategic Planning

All members of the Commission on Colleges go through a reaffirmation of accreditation process every ten years, the same process that is currently occupying a great deal of our attention. But one of the virtues of this process is that it requires each institution to step back and take a careful look at itself, strengths and weaknesses alike. SACS accreditation encourages thorough and periodic evaluation of an institution’s purpose, as expressed in its Mission Statement, and its goals for the future, as expressed in its Strategic Plan.

So, as we consider our accreditation with SACS, Del Mar College has also been engaged in a re-evaluation of its Strategic Plan. A core team made up of faculty members, administrators, staff, Regents, and community members, led by co-chairs August Alfonso and Lenora Keas and assisted by consultant Marc Chinoy, invested a great deal of time in thinking about the next five years at Del Mar College.

Their work is embodied in the Del Mar College Strategic Plan 2009-2014: Access to Excellence. The Plan directs our attention toward six goals, each of which is expressed in a number of objectives that will help focus the attention of the College on concrete outcomes over the next several years. (See the back of this newsletter for a description of the Plan’s six goals.)

The Board of Regents reviewed and approved the Plan at their September meeting. The next step is the identification of leaders, a calendar, and strategies for implementation, which should begin during Spring 2010. I offer my thanks to all who were involved in this important project; their work will have an enormous impact on the College’s progress during the next five years.

Dr. Mark Escamilla
President of
Del Mar College

For more information on the strategic planning process, see: http://www.delmar.edu/strategicplanning/
Strategic Plan Goals, 2009-2014

GOAL 1 – Student Success
Assure access and educational excellence for all students.

GOAL 2 – Operational Resources
Enhance infrastructure, funding, and financial capabilities.

GOAL 3 – Professional Capabilities and Procedural Improvements
Expand knowledge, skills, and abilities of personnel.

GOAL 4 – External Partnerships
Strengthen alliances.

GOAL 5 – Positioning
Strengthen the overall positive image of the College.

GOAL 6 – Governance
Cultivate relationships among all constituencies.

Compliance Certification Report: A Scorecard

The College’s Compliance Certification Report will contain narrative responses to 73 standards and requirements established by SACS and the federal government, as well as the College’s compliance, non-compliance, or partial compliance with each of them.

Some of the responses will consist of a few lines; other will extend to many pages. The completed document may comprise as many as 300 pages. Each response is moving through the process at its own pace.

Here’s the current scorecard:

23 responses are loaded into Xitracs, our accreditation software. This means the narrative is close to final.

18 responses have gone through initial editing and been returned to the original author(s) for further rewrites.

9 responses are in various stages of the initial editing, prior to their return for rewrites.

23 responses are in the starting blocks. In many cases, the fact that no initial draft has been submitted indicates that fall data is required for the response. Some lag further behind than others, but all are in the pipeline.

73 responses total