

# CLASSIFIED

SENATE

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GROSSMONT COLLEGE

## community

*"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." - Helen Keller*

Save  
the  
Date



**CLASSIFIED  
PROFESSIONALS  
DAY**

Monday, March 26, 2018

8:00am—4:30pm

Grossmont College

(Breakfast & Lunch Included)

To Register, please visit: <https://gcccd-classifiedprofessionalsday2018.eventbrite.com>

## Credit where credit is due:

Before I start this article, I would like to thank Mike Reese and Bonnie Ripley for the information I am using. They both have worked very hard to make a difficult subject something we can all understand. Thank you!

# Accreditation

We have all heard of accreditation but I must admit that I have not always understood what it means. I hope the following information makes it a little easier to understand.

## So what is Accreditation?

Accreditation is a voluntary system for the regulation of higher education quality. Institutions agree to join an association and to be bound to uphold the accrediting association's standards of quality and their policies. The association we are a part of is the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC). Accreditation is based on standards of best practice and provides colleges an opportunity to evaluate the quality and effectiveness of the education we are giving our students. The ACCJC is made up of 19 commissioners who are elected for a 3 year term and a comprehensive evaluation is conducted every six years.

The journey to accreditation is made up of four components:

1. An internal evaluation known as the Institutional Self Evaluation Report (ISER). This process began last fall. An Accreditation Steering Committee was established and each of the standards listed below were divided up and assigned to four sub - committees. Each team has a tri-chair consisting of one classified professional, one member of faculty and an administrator. The standards listed below have the names of the classified chairs on each task force.

## What Are We Accountable For?

### The Four Standards:

- **STANDARD I:** Mission, Academic Quality and Institutional Effectiveness **Cindy Emerson**
- **STANDARD II:** Student Learning Programs and Services **Wayne Branker**
- **STANDARD III:** Resources **Bernadette Black**
- **STANDARD IV:** Leadership & Governance **Monica Blando**

2. An external evaluation. This is when we have ACCJC a volunteer team of college faculty and administrators on campus. In preparation for the site visit, the team reviews the ISER. The site visit results in a report by the visiting team called an External Evaluation Report (EER).
3. ACCJC accreditation action. This is when the decision on whether or not to grant accreditation status is made. This decision is based on the EER.
4. Continuous institutional improvement. This is a "what do we do next" review.

## Why is Accreditation Important?

- Accreditation ensures that our institution is offering a quality education to all of our students.
- Accreditation makes our students eligible for federal financial aid. Without financial aid, many of our students would not realize their dreams of a college education.
- Transfer colleges require that students come from an accredited college. Accreditation assures the public that the education provided at our institution is of value to the student and that credentials earned can be accepted as legitimate.

## Who is Responsible?

The short answer is **EVERYONE!**

More specifically:

- \*Accreditation co-chairs - are responsible for managing process and completing the work.
- \*Steering committee (standard tri-chairs) - contribute to writing/collecting evidence, and managing the process for their standard.
- \*Four Standard Teams - write/collect evidence for standard items.
- \*College employees and students - contribute information, examples, evidence, and review and feedback on drafts.

Interim Dean of the College Planning and Institutional Effectiveness (CPIE) Mike Reese is our Campus Accreditation Liaison Officer. He is the college expert on accreditation. His job is to communicate directly with ACCJC and is responsible for submitting the reports.

As you can see, accreditation is a group effort and requires all hands on deck in order for us to maintain our accreditation.

Grossmont College has a strong history for excellence in education and with our participation we can continue this tradition. The accreditation process allows us to brag about our accomplishments and to identify areas for improvement. This process also allows us the opportunity to come together as a campus, classified professionals, faculty, and administrators, working together for a worthy common goal.

# When Does This All Happen?

FALL  
2017

- Identify evidence
- Populate outline of standards with preliminary responses

SPRING  
2018

- Collect evidence
- Write first drafts of standard responses
- First draft of comprehensive self study
- Conduct surveys/take actions to fill in any gaps in evidence

FALL  
2018

- Organize and check evidence
- Incorporate edits into final draft of self study

SPRING  
2019

- Review and approval of self study final draft by constituency groups
- Governing Board approval
- Submit self study to ACCJC

FALL  
2020

- External Site Visit

## March 26th is Classified Professionals Day

It is also the day that voting opens for the Grossmont College Classified Senate Constitution. You can read the constitution [here](#):

<https://www.grossmont.edu/college-info/about-grossmont/org-gov-structures/gcccs/docs/Bylaws/Approved%20Draft%20Constitution.pdf>

# Brought To You By...

## Grossmont College Classified Senate



Monica Blando  
President



Bryan Lam  
Vice President



Cindy Emerson  
Treasurer



Elaine Adlam  
Secretary



Tyler Dranguet  
Senator

Your ideas and suggestions are needed! If you have a story idea or you would like to ask a question regarding Classified Senate or things that colleagues might be helped by as well, let me know by emailing me at: [Elaine.Adlam@gcccd.edu](mailto:Elaine.Adlam@gcccd.edu).

For more information about what Senate is working on go to:

\* our website: <http://www.gcccd.edu/classified-senate/default.html>