



ACCREDITING COMMISSION FOR  
COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES  
WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

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## Keeping Our Members Up-to-Date March 2018

- **Financial Review Consultant** – We are pleased to announce that Jim Austin will be working with our Commission as our Financial Review Consultant. Jim brings with him more than 20 years of high-level financial leadership at several community colleges and as Interim Vice Chancellor of Fiscal Policies and Facilities at the California Community College Chancellor’s Office. He will be playing a key role in refining our approach to fiscal monitoring and in establishing effective relationships with other entities with which we share common oversight interests. Jim will participate with the Commission later this month at our Commission Development Workshop as we address these critical matters.
- **Monthly Presidential Message** – You can find the first in a monthly series of conversation-starters about key aspects of our work as an accrediting agency by clicking on <https://accjc.org/presidents-message>. This first entry touches on how our region ended up with two accrediting agencies. These informational pieces will be updated at the beginning of each month, covering such topics as the role of sanctions, the work of a Commissioner, and our relationship with the US Department of Education. We will feature new initiatives and address important challenges that we face. Each month’s entry will then be archived for future reference. Our goal is to enrich regional understanding of this important aspect of higher education. We hope you will find reasons to return regularly to this page.

- **Accreditation Conferences** – Some 400 of you enjoyed our first-ever ACCJC Conference in Irvine last April. In view of many organizational changes, we have not been able to support a similar event this spring. Our Vice Presidents, however, have been active this year both directly at many of our colleges and presenting at a number of conferences sponsored by other professional development organizations in the region. In this regard, we will be present at the Academic Resources Conference (the ARC), April 25-27, sponsored by our colleagues at the WASC Senior College and University Commission (<https://2018.wascarc.org/>). Join us there if you can. Meanwhile, look ahead to April 30 – May 3, 2019, and hold your calendar for the next ACCJC conference.

Thank you,

**Jessica Dreier, B.A.**

Commission Services Manager, Executive Assistant to the President

Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges

Western Association of Schools and College

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