Good Evening Board members and all present.... My name is Claude Oliver and I am the Vice President of our Academic Senate. First I would like to begin with an apology for not being able to attend any of the regular and special summer Board of Trustee meetings. I, along with many of my fellow full-time and part-time faculty members chose to offer courses this summer so our students could reach their educational goals. My course met Tuesday and Thursday evenings for five hours each night for eight weeks and therefore I could not attend those meetings. I did have an opportunity to watch the online video of your meetings. One disappointing thing I learned among several things presented by people who claim to represent our community is that we faculty who chose to work this summer were essentially “stealing from the districts cash register” because we did not voluntarily teach our courses this past summer for no pay.

It is this attitude among just a few along with their lies in the daily press and other social media that worries me with regards to our upcoming accreditation visit. Many things have been said about recommendations 2, 3, & 6. I am confident that our faculty have been working very hard to meet recommendations 2 & 3 as we understand what is required by the ACCJC. Even though recent events on a state and federal level have brought into question the misuse of power that is being wielded by the commission.

The Academic Senate is pleased to report to the BoT that the voluntary in-service day, August 30, 2013, was a resounding success. Currently, Tracy Davis, AS President, is compiling the attendance sheets and
workshop notes for a comprehensive report on this event at the October 2013 BoT meeting, and for inclusion in ACCJC materials to demonstrate the commitment of faculty to continuous quality improvement and peer learning. The AS would like to thank the following faculty for volunteering their time to facilitate workshops: Glenn Akers and Cheryl Elsmore, who facilitated the adjunct faculty workshop; Debby Blanchard, curriculum workshop; Jessica Gibbs, Lisa Harvey, Peggy Mayer, David Gibbs and Claude Oliver for the accreditation panel discussion, the robust dialogue and program review workshops; Lisa Ellis, for making herself available at the end of the day for questions regarding facilitators; Michael Butros, Carol Delong, Leslie Huiner, Peggy Mayer, Patty Golder, Jeff Redona, Debby Blanchard and Ed Heaberlin as our notetakers for these workshops. The AS would also like to extend a special thanks to Jennifer Fowlie, Communications Center Facilitator; Debbie Peterson, for the excellent food; Tim Isbell for his technical expertise; Robert Sewell for coordinating SAC activities; and Peter Allan and Peter Maphumulo for their support of this event. Plans are already being made for another voluntary in-service day in Spring 2013. The AS goal for the next event is threefold: more collaborative workshops involving all constituency groups; workshops on syllabi and inquiry-based learning; prepping for the ACCJC midterm report; and involving even more faculty in this Spring 2014 event. A survey will be sent out to Fall participants to see what workshops and sessions are needed for the future.

I would like to address recommendation 6 this evening. Our “projected” structural deficit... Let me begin by looking back at the past eight years of our CFO’s projected budgets versus our CFO’s actual
budgets and our CFO’s CSF-311 reports to the chancellor’s office. This includes various pages from the Board of Trustees budget workshop for the past three years as well as the summary sheets from the past six CSF-311 reports.

I have prepared a handout for all of you. In simple terms it explains how our district, under the guidance of our chief financial officer, has been performing over the past six years. I would like to emphasize that these respective budget figures were taken from the past three years of budget workshops presented to our Board of Trustees. They are not “make believe” figures taken from sources like the Daily Press and “community members” speeches...

Wikipedia Definition of “Structural Deficit”

*Structural deficits may be planned, or may be unintentional due to poor economic management or a fundamental lack of economic capacity in a country. In a planned structural deficit, the government may commit to spending money on the future of the country in order to improve the productive potential of the economy, for example investing in infrastructure, education, or transport, with the intention that this investment will yield long-term economic gains. If these investments work out as planned the structural deficit will be dealt with over the long-term due to the returns on investment, however if expenditures continue to exceed revenues the structural deficit will worsen. A government may also knowingly plan the budget to be in deficit in order to sustain the country's standard of living and continue its obligations to the citizens, although this would generally be an indication of poor economic management. Ongoing planned structural deficits may eventually lead to a crisis of confidence.*