It has been a while since I sent out an accreditation update, and I am sure that there are many of you who are wondering what is going on. The accreditation committee met last week, and discussed two activities. The first one is clearly the impending follow-up report which will be due in October. This report will provide the evidence that VVC has met the requirements of recommendations 2,3 and 6. You can read about these recommendations by going to www.vvc.edu and clicking on the link to “accreditation” on the left side of the page. There are two relevant documents on that site. The first is the letter from the ACCJC to VVC which continues the College on probation, and the second is the “Public Disclosure Notice”. Every employee at VVC should be familiar with the content of these two documents.

In order to complete recommendations 2 and 3, a special committee of faculty has been formed to oversee the completion of the recommendations, write up the follow-up report, and ensure the availability of the evidence needed to prove that we have completed the recommendations. These two recommendations involve Program Review and SLO/PLO Assessment. It is essential that we develop a culture of assessing our planning and teaching results to ensure that both are effective. Our goal is to complete most if not all of the October follow-up report by June 28th, 2013.

Recommendation 6 is a fiscal recommendation. We are required to identify how we plan to resolve the structural deficit. This issue is being studied by the Budget and Finance Committee and negotiation teams who are developing recommendations for implementation.

The second important activity is the Mid-Term report which is due on March 15th, 2014. See http://www.accjc.org/wp-uploacontents/2012/09/Guidelines-for-Preparing-Institutional-Reports_2012.pdf The Mid-Term report is described as a report which provides an update to the self-study report that we completed in 2011. A copy of the self-study is also on the accreditation page of VVC.edu A committee will be formed to establish a calendar for completion of this report and to provide the evidence needed.

I would like to thank the faculty and staff who have worked diligently to provide assessment information for inclusion into our Trac Dat system. While we still have a way to go to achieve 100% SLO and PLO assessment, there is a light at the end of the tunnel. I am confident that together we can make it a success.