

CORE INQUIRIES

Victor Valley College
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The Core Inquiries are based upon the findings of the peer review team that conducted Team ISER Review on October 19, 2023.

Michael Gutierrez
Team Chair

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Victor Valley College

Peer Review Team Roster

Team ISER Review

October 19, 2023

Mr. Michael Gutierrez, Team Chair Hartnell College Superintendent/President	Dr. Lennor Johnson, Vice Chair Imperial Valley College Superintendent/President
ACADEMIC MEMBERS	
Mr. Patrick Bettencourt Modesto Junior College Dean of Instruction and Student Learning	Dr. Carl Polley Kapi‘olani Community College Assistant Professor
Ms. Elizabeth Romero Clovis Community College Child Development Instructor/Academic Senate President	
ADMINISTRATIVE MEMBERS	
Dr. Rebecca Bocchicchio Sierra College Vice President of Instruction	Mr. Augustine Chavez San Joaquin Delta College Vice President of Administrative Services
Dr. Elizabeth Coria Cuesta College Assistant Superintendent/Vice President, Student Success and Support Programs	Mrs. Herminia Honda Los Angeles County College of Nursing and Allied Health Dean, Institutional Effectiveness, Research & Planning
Dr. Teresa Ward Butte College Interim Director, Special Programs	
ACCJC STAFF LIAISON	
Dr. Catherine Webb ACCJC Vice President	

Summary of Team ISER Review

INSTITUTION: Victor Valley College

DATE OF TEAM ISER REVIEW: October 19, 2023

TEAM CHAIR: Mr. Michael Gutierrez

A 10-member member accreditation peer review team conducted Team ISER Review of Victor Valley College on October 19, 2023. The Team ISER Review is a one-day, off-site analysis of an institution's self-evaluation report. The peer review team received the college's institutional self-evaluation report (ISER) and related evidence several weeks prior to the Team ISER Review. Team members found the ISER to be a comprehensive, well written, document detailing the processes used by the College to address Eligibility Requirements, Commission Standards, and Commission Policies. The team confirmed that the ISER was developed through broad participation by the entire College community including faculty, staff, students, and administration. The team found that the College provided a thoughtful ISER containing several self-identified action plans for institutional improvement. The College also prepared a Quality Focus Essay.

In preparation for the Team ISER Review, the team chair attended a team chair training workshop on August 10, 2023, and held a pre-review meeting with the college CEO on September 11, 2023. The entire peer review team received team training provided by staff from ACCJC on August 30, 2023. Prior to the Team ISER Review, team members completed their team assignments, identified areas for further clarification, and provided a list of requests for additional evidence to be considered during Team ISER Review.

During the Team ISER Review, team members spent the morning discussing their initial observations and their preliminary review of the written materials and evidence provided by the College for the purpose of determining whether the College continues to meet Accreditation Standards, Eligibility Requirements, Commission Policies, and US ED regulations. In the afternoon, the team further synthesized their findings to validate the excellent work of the college and identified standards the college meets, as well as developed Core Inquiries to be pursued during the Focused Site Visit, which will occur in Spring 2024.

Core Inquiries are a means for communicating potential areas of institutional noncompliance, improvement, or exemplary practice that arise during the Team ISER Review. They describe the areas of emphasis for the Focused Site Visit that the team will explore to further their analysis to determine whether standards are met and accordingly identify potential commendations or recommendations. The college should use the Core Inquiries and time leading up to the focused site visit as an opportunity to gather more evidence, collate information, and to strengthen or develop processes in the continuous improvement cycle. During the Focused Site Visit, the ACCJC staff liaison will review new or emerging issues which might arise out of the discussions on Core Inquiries.

Core Inquiries

Based on the team’s analysis during the Team ISER Review, the team identified the following core inquiries that relate to potential areas of clarification, improvement, or commendation.

<p>Core Inquiry 1: The team would like to confirm how total cost of ownership for facilities and equipment is integrated into procedures and practices for long-range facilities planning.</p>
<p>Standards or Policies: Standard III.B.4 on Physical Resources: “Long-range capital plans support institutional improvement goals and reflect projections of the total cost of ownership of new facilities and equipment.”</p>
<p>Description: The team reviewed the Facilities Master Plan (III.B.4-02), Technology Plan (III.B.4-01), and Educational Master Plan (III.B-03), which together provide evidence for prioritization of institutional goals relating to physical resources. The team also reviewed the College’s five-year capital outlay plan (III.B.3-03). However, the team is unclear about how long-range planning for physical resources is mapped to specific goals for institutional improvement. The team would like to better understand how long-range planning incorporates analysis of total cost of operation and ownership.</p>
<p>Topics of discussion during interviews:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. How the College calculates projections of the total cost of ownership for facilities and equipment.b. How the College considers total cost of ownership for facilities and equipment as part of its long-term fiscal planning processes.
<p>Request for Additional Information/Evidence:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Documentation of how the College calculates total cost of ownership.b. Documentation or descriptions of how total cost of ownership is integrated into decision-making processes for long-term planning and facilities management.
<p>Request for Observations/Interviews:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Superintendent/President, Executive Vice President for Administrative Services, Director of Maintenance of Operationsb. Finance Budget and Planning Committee (FBPC) membersc. Facilities Committee membersd. Staff and faculty involved in facilities planning processes

Core Inquiry 2: Governance

The team acknowledged that the college had identified that the decision-making process is not entirely clear to the campus community. The team would like an update on what progress the college has made to improve their governance structure and decision-making processes since the creation of the ISER.

Standards or Policies: IV.A.3, IV.A.7

Description:

The team had reviewed the evidence on the college's governance structure and decision-making processes but need clarification on the following:

- a. How does the campus governance structure evaluate the committees' effectiveness regarding participation in the decision-making process?
- b. What is the progress in creating the integrated planning handbook?

Topics of discussion during interviews:

- a. Clarity on the governance structure and the decision-making process.
- b. How does the college evaluate the effectiveness of its committees and participation from all constituents?
- c. How does the college evaluate the processes, the effectiveness of the governance structure, and make overall decisions?

Request for Additional Information/Evidence:

- a. Please provide an example of the committee bylaws and the overall campus committee bylaws and governance structure currently in place.
- b. The integrated handbook draft as in progress

Request for Observations/Interviews:

- a. We would like to meet with students who have participated in committees.
- b. We would like to meet with some of the committee chairs and members including faculty, administrators and staff.

Core Inquiry 3: Outreach/One-Stop/Caring Campus

The team is excited about the work Victor Valley College has engaged in directly related to Outreach/One-Stop and Caring Campus. The pride of ownership was reflected by the campus community during the Virtual Forum and consistently referenced throughout the ISER.

Standards or Policies:

I.C.1, I.C.2, I.C.5, II.A.14, II.B.1, II.C.3, II.C.6, III.A.2, III.A.14, III.C.1, III.D.2, IV.B.1, IV.B.3

Description:

No additional evidence required at this time.

Topics of discussion during interviews:

- a. Outreach efforts
- b. One-Stop and services to students
- c. Institutional implementation of Caring Campus

Request for Additional Information/Evidence:

No additional evidence required at this time.

Request for Observations/Interviews:

- 1. Outreach lead
- 2. One-stop lead
- 3. Caring Campus lead

Core Inquiry 4: Responsiveness to the Community

The team is excited about the work of Victor Valley College for their work and achievements directly related to responsiveness to the Community. This is strongly emphasized with a strong understanding of the demographics and needs of the community the college serves. This is also a direct correlation with the work in Outreach, One-Stop and Caring Campus.

Standards or Policies:

I.A.1, I.B.8, II.A.5, II.A.14, II.C.4, II.C.6, III.B.2, III.B.3, III.C.2, III.D.2, IV.A.1, IV.B.3, IV.B.6

Description:

N/A

Topics of discussion during interviews:

- a. Program offerings
- b. Community partnerships
- c. Consortiums

Request for Additional Information/Evidence:

No additional information requested at this time.

Request for Observations/Interviews:

Any college personnel or students that the college feels can speak to the Standards in the core inquiry/topics for discussion.