

**Modesto Junior College
July 2008 Accreditation Study Sessions:
Comparison of College Status with the
ACCJC Rubric for Evaluating Institutional Effectiveness: Planning**

MJC is currently on probation due to the college's lack of action in the requirement to develop an integrated planning process. ACCJC first notified the college in 2000.

Recommendation 7: The team recommends that the college develop and implement a strategic planning process for connecting long-term program and services planning to financial resource development, as well as to facilities, human resources, and technology planning, consistent with the mission of the college. In addition, the team recommends that to accomplish its plans, the college develop and implement a short-term cyclical process that includes (a) clear institutional goals that are achieved through tactical actions that are based on institutional data and research, allocation of resources, timelines, and primary office of responsibility, (b) a method to report accomplishments of each tactical action, and (c) measures of institutional effectiveness that document achievement of the college mission and demonstrate continuous improvement.

In July 2008, all college faculty and staff were invited to attend a brainstorming session to compare the college's current status with the ACCJC rubric of institutional effectiveness for planning.

Two facilitators led the session that was attended by approximately 25 people.

Following an introduction to the rubric and ACCJC standards for accreditation, each group of 5-7 participants

- discussed and determined where the participants would place MJC on the institutional effectiveness rubric if they were members of a team visiting MJC today
 - Awareness
 - Development
 - Proficiency
 - Sustainable Continuous Quality Improvement
- reported their group's status for MJC
- identified where MJC fails to fulfill the elements identified in the rubric and what the college can do in the coming year to move to the next level
- reported their group's strategies for closing the gaps

Description of the gap analysis process

This brainstorming produced

- a list of gaps or specific areas where the college fell short of the desired level of functioning identified in the rubric, and
- specific suggestions that could be implemented in the coming year to close the identified gaps.

The group agreed that MJC would be placed at the stage of *Development* on the planning rubric and had not yet achieved ACCJC's expectation of *Sustainable Continuous Quality Improvement*.

In August and September, the facilitators reviewed the resulting operational plan with the college leadership which established responsible parties and timelines for each strategy. This document will serve as an operational plan to refine and guide college planning activities in 2008-2009.