DATES SET FOR 2009 WORLD SERIES OF ACCREDITATION

Monroe County Community College President Dr. David Nixon has announced that he has received official notification from the Higher Learning Commission that the 2009-2010 evaluation team visit – the World Series of Accreditation – has been slated for September 28, 29 and 30, 2009. Dr. Nixon said he received the information from the Higher Learning Commission on March 24.

Writing the MCCC Self-Study
By Dr. John Holladay and Lori Jo Couch, MCCC Self-Study Editors

We would like to reinforce the key issues presented in the recent memo sent by our steering team co-chairs, Sue Wetzel and Dave Waggoner. Their advice is well considered and well worth repeating.

Before writing any part of a chapter, be sure to carefully read the models for your chapter posted on the steering team’s Blackboard site (Sample Studies) – especially the models from community colleges. These are models of excellence. After examining each model, can you answer these questions?

How long is each chapter and each section? How do they organize their chapters? What headings and subheadings are they using? How many tables, graphs, and charts do they provide? Can we come close to meeting or exceeding the models?

If a variety of people have written parts of a chapter, find one writer on your subcommittee to put the draft into one voice and to double-check the information. As previously stated, this person would do well to emulate the sample studies.

At this stage of the self-study, never fear that you have provided too much information. If we err, let’s err on the side of excess. We can always remove redundancies during the editing process, but if we come up short, the editors will not be able to produce what is not provided. We DO NOT have a maximum page limit for any section.

It would be extremely helpful if the writer of each chapter would read and follow the suggestions provided on the MCCC Self-Study Blackboard site. Go to HLC SELF-STUDY STEERING TEAM/Documents/WritingGuidelines - Style Sheets.

Write On!
The Constellation Survey and Conversation Day held in September 2006 identified six areas of high importance but not done well. One of these areas was vision/planning. The data indicated that faculty and staff do not have a shared vision for the future. In addition, survey respondents cited a lack of input from all college constituencies with regard to planning.

Criterion Five, Engagement and Service, suggests that accredited institutions engage and serve all constituencies.

Thus, in an effort to create a data-driven strategic planning process and engage students, faculty, staff, alumni, business partners, Board of Trustee members and Monroe County citizens, the Institutional Plan Coordinating Committee hired an experienced strategic planning consultant to assist with a review of the college’s strategic planning process, the creation of a vision statement, and to conduct a comprehensive review of the mission. The IPCC has met with the consultant six times since October 2007. As a result, the committee has drafted a proposal for a new planning model which calls for input from all constituents.

During the months of January and February, 107 internal and external constituents gathered to discuss the vision for Monroe County Community College. The IPCC will compile the results and draft a vision statement for the college. This month, similar discussions are being held to revisit the Mission Statement. Input from these sessions will also be compiled and used in the revision of the Mission Statement. The data from these sessions may also impact the content of the new strategic plan.