

**From:** Angela Fairchilds  
**Sent:** Friday, January 12, 2018 2:49 PM  
**To:** Angela Fairchilds  
**Subject:** Campus Update

Dear Colleagues, I hope that the first week of the semester went smoothly. It is wonderful to have students back on campus! I waited until today to send this update so that I could tell you about our visit to ACCJC.

### Accreditation

I, Brian Sanders and Chancellor Yong attended the Commission meeting in San Jose yesterday to briefly report on how Columbia College and the District are responding to the findings of the Visiting Team and self-identified action items in the ISER. I also spoke about how the tone and feel of the process was much different (in a good way) than previous experiences. Dr. Curry, our visiting team chair, participated by phone and spoke with the Commission privately before and after our presentation. James Todd also attended and, separately, spoke on behalf of MJC. All of us had an opportunity to address the Commissioners and our comments were well-received. There were no questions asked but one Commissioner acknowledged and thanked us for our hard work in the process. Now we wait for approximately 2-3 weeks for formal notice of the Commission's determination.

Once again, I want to thank all of you for the work reflected in the ISER, the work completed to date and that still lies ahead of us to accomplish the planned improvements.

### Welcome Week

Kudos and much appreciation to Kirsten Miller and the planning committee for the many informative Welcome Week activities this week. Once again they presented a fine selection of facts, food and fun! Although the weather was wet, it did not dampen the spirit. Regretfully, I had to miss the Pack the Pavilion event because of the YCCD Board meeting but Nate texted me photos throughout the evening.

### Retirement and Presidential Search

For those of you who missed it last week at In-Service, I announced that I will retire at the end of June. After 38 years in higher education, it is time to hand over the leadership baton and devote quality time to travel and pursue other leisurely activities with my husband Dave. Although there is never really a good time to step away from something you love, the timing is good in that the college is operating smoothly, we have a talented and committed Admin Team and strong faculty leadership focused on student success and moving the college forward. We have coherent planning processes in place and a new committee structure to facilitate the work. And we have Strategic Plan goals to guide us through 2021.

The six month timeline will allow for a thorough search to find the right leader to take over the reins of President of Columbia College. Earlier this week, Chancellor Yong gave direction to HR to seek RFPs (request for proposals) from Executive Search firms to assist. The process will be very similar to past searches at this level and the committee structure will ensure representation from all constituent groups. I will be working closely with Vice Chancellor Gina Leguria to assist with the process, as needed. The plan is to complete the search and have a new president in place on July 1<sup>st</sup>.



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