Fullerton College
Reaffirmation of Accreditation
March 13 to 17, 2011
ACCJC
Visiting Team
James Meznek, Ph.D., Chair  
Chair of Chairs for NOCCCD

Dr. James Meznek is the Chief Executive Officer for Ventura County Community College District (VCCCD), a public community college district serving 34,801 students as of spring 2011. VCCCD’s three colleges -- Moorpark College, Oxnard College, and Ventura College -- offer programs for transfer to four-year colleges and universities, occupational/career technical training, and basic skills instruction. Each of the colleges provides a wide range of general programs and services to students, as well as focusing on its own unique and specialty areas.

A native of Michigan, Dr. Meznek received his bachelors and masters degrees from Wayne State University in Detroit and holds a doctorate of philosophy degree from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor.

Dr. Meznek has 31 years of experience in higher education administration. In past roles, he served as President/Superintendent of Barstow Community College District, President of Century College in Minnesota, Executive Director of the Wyoming Community College System, and Deputy Chancellor of the California Community Colleges System Office. His professional activities include memberships with the American Council on Education, Community College League of California, and the Association of California Community College Administrators. He is a lifetime member of Optimist International, a core member of the Ventura County Regional Pre-K Council, a member of the Camarillo Health Care District Advisory Committee, and a member of the Navy League. His prior public service has included membership on hospital, public safety, youth athletic, and economic development boards and councils.

Cathy Hasson, Ed.D.

Cathy Hasson is the Director of Institutional Research and Planning for the San Diego Community College District. She has worked as a community college research and planning professional for over a decade at colleges in both Southern and Northern California. In her current position, she oversees the research function for the district, as well as its three colleges and the non-credit continuing education program, teaming with nine innovative staff of quantitative and qualitative research analysts, database programmers, and clerical support.

Dr. Hasson holds an Ed.D. in Organizational Leadership/Institutional Management from Pepperdine University and an M.S. in Education from Cal State University, Fullerton. Dr. Hasson taught ESL at various community colleges and universities in Southern California for 15 years prior to launching into institutional research. She also served as lead education researcher and assessment analyst for three years in private for profit organizations. She has been a longstanding board member for the RP Group and continues to engage in statewide projects (i.e., the BSI Network, BSOC, and BRIC) and is a regular presenter at state and national conferences (e.g., Student Success and League for Innovation).

Dr. Hasson’s areas of interest and expertise include developing organizational systems that help to improve key functions of an organization while promoting collaborative inquiry. She has developed successful measurement systems (i.e., Balanced Scorecard) and frameworks (i.e., SLOAC Framework), as well as models for building information capacity (i.e., BRIC TAP Information Capacity Model), and continues to use continuous improvement processes as a way to encourage reflective dialogue across the academy.
Victoria Hindes, Ed.D.

Dr. Victoria Hindes is Vice President of Student Services at West Valley College in Saratoga, California. Her community college experience spans many years working in all areas of student services, first as classified staff, then faculty, and administrator. She taught English at the community college level and Counseling for Diverse Populations at the university level.

Dr. Hindes has a Doctor of Education Degree in International and Multicultural Education and a minor in Organizational Leadership from University of San Francisco, a Master of Arts Degree and Bachelor of Arts Degree in English from CSU Chico, and an Associate of Arts Degree in Journalism from Skyline College.

Dr. Hindes began her career at College of the Siskiyous where she worked nine years in Student Services, eight years at Shasta College as Director of Research and Grants, and five years as Executive Dean of Student Services at Victor Valley College. She has written nearly 30 successfully funded state and federal grants, including eight successfully funded research projects. Dr. Hindes has served as field reviewer for the U.S. Department of Education and was a 2006 USDA Education Fellow in Washington, D.C. In 2003, she served as a visiting researcher at the Summer Teacher Institute at the University of Oslo, Norway, and has presented at the University of Bath and University of South Hampton, England.

Dr. Hindes is most proud of implementing outstanding student services programs. Five of these programs received the Chancellors Office Student Success Award -- two for Victor Valley College, one for Shasta College, one for College of the Siskiyous, and an Honorable Mention for West Valley College.

Haragewen Kinde, Ed.D.

Dr. Kinde is currently the Dean of Mathematics, Business, and Computer Technology at San Bernardino Valley College where she has worked in various leadership capacities since 2007. Dr. Kinde started as a mathematics instructor at San Bernardino Valley College in 1997. Due to her interest in higher education, she pursued leadership opportunities and became the Dean of Mathematics and Science in 2005.

Dr. Kinde received her B.S. and M.A. in Mathematics from California State University, San Bernardino. In 2005, she earned her Ed.D. in Educational Leadership from the University of La Verne. Dr. Kinde has worked with faculty and the community to initiate and coordinate several events such as Mathematics Appreciation Day, Empowering Men in Mathematics Field Day, and Celebrating Women in Mathematics and Science Day. She has received several accolades such as University of Redlands Town and Gown Woman of Distinction, Outstanding Education Leader of the Year for East Valley Region, and the Innovator of the Year award at San Bernardino Valley College. In addition, she serves on various committees on campus such as the Technology Committee, Curriculum Committee, and the Matriculation Advisory Committee.
Jeffrey Lamb, Ph.D.

Dr. Lamb has been the Dean of Academic Success and Learning Resources at Solano Community College since 2010. Prior to assuming the dean position, Dr. Lamb taught Spanish in the Humanities Division, served as the Teaching and Learning Center Coordinator, and was Academic Senate President at Solano College. Dr. Lamb has taught at post-secondary institutions for over 20 years and has had opportunities to teach at a variety of two-year colleges and four-year universities, private and public, national and international institutions. Dr. Lamb’s experiences in these areas led to his participation in the Statewide Academic Senate’s Faculty Development Committee.

Jeffrey Lamb, Ph.D., earned his doctorate in Latin American Literature in 1997 from the University of California, Los Angeles, his MA from San Diego State University, and his BA from California State University, Long Beach, where he participated in a year abroad at the Universidad Complutense in Madrid, Spain. He also studied at Golden West College. He lives in Benicia, California, with his wife and three children.

Gaither Loewenstein, Ph.D.

Dr. Gaither Loewenstein is President of Modesto Junior College. Prior to accepting the presidency at Modesto, Dr. Loewenstein was Vice President of Norco College. He has over 16 years experience as a college administrator, in the California community college system. Prior to serving at Norco, he worked in higher educational administration at the College of the Desert, Barstow Community College, and Mendocino College.

Dr. Loewenstein earned a Ph.D. in Urban Affairs from the University of Delaware, a Master's Degree in Urban Affairs from Wichita State University, Kansas, and a B.S. in Public Administration from University of the Pacific, Stockton.

Dr. Loewenstein has Central Valley roots. He was the Dean of Instruction at Humphrey’s College in Stockton, and worked as an Advance Planner for San Joaquin County and Planning Director for the City of Escalon. His university teaching experience includes being an Assistant Professor of Political Science/Assistant Director of the Center for Urban and Public Affairs at Wright State University in Dayton, OH, and Assistant Professor of Government at Lamar University in Beaumont, TX.
Nancy Silva

Nancy Silva has been a professor of Theatre Arts at American River College for 21 years. She has served on three previous accreditation teams. Professor Silva also served six years on the Executive Committee for the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges.

Professor Silva earned her M. F. A. from the University of Minnesota, her BA from California State University, Sacramento, and her AA from Orange Coast College. At American River College, Professor Silva has served 14 years on her local Academic Senate, which includes one year as District Academic Senate President, six years as a local senate officer, and three years as the American River College Senate President. Professor Silva has served on many state, district, and college committees, worked with student government, and presented workshops on leadership and participatory governance throughout the state.

Robert Stinson, Ph.D.

Dr. Robert Stinson has been an instructor in the Science Department at Barstow College since 2006. Courses taught include General Biology, Anatomy and Physiology, Human Biology, Human Anatomy, Human Physiology, General Microbiology, Food Microbiology, Environmental Science, Human Sexuality, Food Toxicology, and Food Safety. Dr. Stinson has also taught at South Texas College (McAllen, TX), Bainbridge College (Bainbridge, GA), and the College of Southern Nevada (Las Vegas, NV). At Barstow, Dr. Stinson served as Curriculum Committee Chair, SLOAC Committee member, Distance Ed Committee member, Technology Committee member, Academic Senate, and Co-Chair of Standard IV for Barstow’s Self Study.

Dr. Robert Stinson received his Ph.D. in Microbiology from the University of Arkansas and completed a post doctorate in immunology at Mississippi State University. He earned a MS from the University of New Mexico, and a BS from Missouri Southern State College.

Following a research period in the Department of Surgery at Washington University-St. Louis, Dr. Stinson accepted a teaching/research position at the University of Alabama. He also worked for SPAFAS, Inc., a subsidiary of Merck Pharmaceutical in antibody development and viral testing and then served as Laboratory Director and Vice President for Continuous Improvement at Pilgrim’s Pride Corporation (Fortune 500 company).
Thea Trimble, Ph.D.

Dr. Thea Trimble is currently the Science Division Chair at College of the Sequoias. Dr. Trimble’s teaching career includes teaching Biology at Carleton College in Minnesota and for the past 20 years, teaching Human Anatomy and Human Physiology at College of the Sequoias (COS).

Dr. Trimble received her B.S. and M.S. in Zoology from the University of California at Davis and her Ph.D. in Biology from the University of Iowa. She continued her research in developmental neurobiology as a post-doctoral and research associate at Tulane University, UC Berkeley, and University of Oregon.

During her tenure at COS, she has filled a number of faculty governance positions including Division Chair of Science, Academic Senate President, and College Council President. Dr. Trimble is currently Co-Chair of the Institutional Program Review Committee. She has been very active in the accreditation processes at COS where she twice served as standard chair for Governance and Leadership. During the last cycle, Dr. Trimble was the Accreditation Chair for COS.

Deborah Wallace

Deborah Wallace is currently the Assistant Superintendent/Vice President of Administrative Services for the Antelope Valley Community College District (AVCCCD) in Lancaster, California. She has held increasingly progressive positions in the field of education for approximately 15 years. Ms. Wallace currently oversees five operational departments, including a contract for police services with the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department. Ms. Wallace has taught several courses in the business and computer studies division at AVCCCD, including the women’s diversity class. Prior to being promoted to Vice President, she was instrumental in developing a unified campus budgeting system. She is also the co-chair of the college’s Strategic Planning and Budget Council.

Deborah has taken post graduate studies at Cornell University and received a Master’s in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix. She holds a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration with a minor in Economics and Finance from Elizabeth City State University, a constituent institution of the University of North Carolina system.

As a scholarship coordinator for a non-profit group in her community for over nine years, Deborah has worked with community leaders to provide over $10,000 to high school and college students.
Melissa Wong

Melissa Wong is a library consultant and adjunct faculty member in the library and information sciences schools at San Jose State University and University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Ms. Wong formerly served as Library Director at Marymount College, California, a private, liberal arts college in Rancho Palos Verdes, California. Prior to Marymount, she spent six years as a librarian at the University of Southern California.

Ms Wong received her Master of Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and her Bachelor of Arts degree from Augustana College in Illinois.

While at Marymount College, Ms. Wong chaired the institutional self study process. She has also served on other visiting teams for WASC’s Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges.

"A Volunteer is a person who believes that people can make a difference...And is willing to prove it."

Elizabeth Lucas Designs

Fullerton College would like to thank the Accreditation Visiting Team for volunteering their time and service.