Date: July 23, 2012

To: CCSF College Community

From: Interim Chancellor Pam Fisher

Subject: Accreditation Status

Dear Colleagues:

Since my last communication with you, the College has made progress in organizing and staffing the substantial amount of work before us to address and correct the serious issues cited in our recent accreditation report. I provided an update on our activities to the Board of Trustees at its special meeting this past Wednesday and wanted to share the highlights of that report with you.

Because of the critical and timely nature of the work that needs to be done, specific action plans are being developed by fourteen individual work groups of the Accreditation Response Team that I lead. These work groups, comprised of faculty, staff, administrators, students and trustees, align with the specific recommendations of the ACCJC. The recommendations relate to the following areas of college operations:

2. Planning Process/Roles and Authority
3. Institutional Effectiveness/Program Review
4. Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)/Instruction
5. SLO/Student Services
6. SLO/Evaluations in HR
7. Adequacy of Staff and Administrators/Planning
8. Physical Resources/Operation/Maintenance
9. Technology Resources
10. Financial Planning and Stability
11. Financial Integrity and Reporting
12. Leadership/Governance/Decision-Making
13. Governance Structures/Barriers to Decision-Making
14. Effective Board of Trustees Organization

Gohar Momjian, CCSF’s Accreditation Liaison Officer, is working with me to carefully manage this major task, which is essentially another entire Self-Study. Following the submission of the Show Cause Report March 15, 2013, a different large accrediting visiting team will come to the college to verify and assess our successful implementation of these recommendations, as well as to determine if we meet all the eligibility requirements for accreditation. Accomplishing this goal will require dramatic changes in how we organize and operate the College and will require broad participation and effort on the part of all sectors of our college community. The latter is especially important as it pertains to the reforms that we must make regarding Student Learning Outcomes, Program Review, and Governance and Decision Making.

I am in frequent contact with the leadership of the Accrediting Commission and with California Community Colleges State Chancellor Dr. Jack Scott to keep them apprised of our work. Both have offered helpful suggestions. John Rizzo, President of our Board of Trustees, met with Chancellor Scott last week and Chancellor Scott has asked to meet with our Board of Trustees regarding accreditation issues on August 6 as a part of a special board meeting. The ACCJC has sent senior officials to conduct detailed training for our trustees and staff on accreditation best practices and the remediation process.

I am encouraged by the constructive suggestions and visible support from all sectors of our community and want to especially thank those who have taken on extra responsibilities through the Accreditation Response Team. We have an enormous amount of work to do. These collective efforts, and the individual contributions of every member of our community, are critical to the task of building a stronger, more responsive City College.

Please remember that you can find detailed information about our accreditation status and our progress at http://www.ccsf.edu/NEW/en/about-city-college/Accreditation_2012.html.

Sincerely,

Dr. Pamila Fisher

Interim Chancellor