

## BUILDING OUR STUDENTS' SUCCESS

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September 2021

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## ***The Site Visit***

### **What Takes place?**

From September 27 to September 30, 2021, Taft College will be hosting the Accreditation Visit Team virtually. This is a team of our professional peers from a wide variety of roles at community colleges from across the state. They volunteer their time and provide their insight and support to achieve strong student outcomes as they review our ISER and learn about our campus.

The external peer review team provides an independent evaluation of an institution. The team analyzes and verifies the information provided in the Institutional Self-Evaluation Report (ISER) and **assesses whether the institution meets Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards, and Commission policies.**

The role of the peer reviewer is twofold:

1. To determine that the college complies with Standards and
2. To provide guidance for institutional improvement.

The team presents its findings in a report that serves two purposes.

1. Provides feedback to the institution regarding the quality of its performance
2. Provides first-hand observations and analysis that assist the Commission in its determination of the accredited status of the College

### **Who will the team meet with?**

The team will typically expect to meet with the college/district or system Chief Executive Officer (CEO), administrators, department heads and program coordinators, members of the governing board, faculty, students, and persons with substantial responsibility for producing the ISER. Peer review team members might also decide to attend meetings of the governing board should one be scheduled during the time of the site visit. In addition, the team will also conduct open forums to provide members of the college and other interested parties access to the team during the site visit.

Early in the visit, the institution may wish to host a simple meet-and-greet activity to introduce the team to key members of the campus community, especially those directly involved in the self-evaluation process.

On the final day of the site visit, the peer review team chair will meet with the college's CEO, and later, with the members of the college to present the team's exit report.

## Visiting Team Biographies

### TEAM CHAIR



**Dr. John Hernandez** is President of Irvine Valley College. Dr. Hernandez has been an educator for over 30 years –23 of those years in administration. He formerly served as President of Santiago Canyon College (Orange, CA) for four years and prior to that was SCC's vice president of student services for 11 years. He has been in leadership roles at both two-and four-year institutions.

Dr. Hernandez earned his Ph.D. in College Student Personnel Administration from the University of Maryland, a master's degree in Counseling from CSU Long Beach, and a bachelor's degree in sociology from CSU Fullerton. He earned an associate in arts degree at Fullerton College.

### TEAM MEMBERS



**Dr. Marilyn Brock** is an English Professor and Co-Chair of the English and Humanities Department at Coastline College. She currently serves as an Academic Senator, Academic Senate Recording Secretary, Editor of Nzuri Literary and Arts Journal, and as a committee member on Curriculum Committee, Program Review, and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). She has two children and has lived in Orange County for sixteen years.



**Eileen Cichocki** currently serves as the Assistant Superintendent/Vice President of Administrative Services at the Mendocino-Lake Community College District in Ukiah, California. Her areas of responsibility are Human Resources, Fiscal Services, Facilities, Information Technology, and the Child Development Center. She has worked at Mendocino College for 17 years, including a year as Interim Superintendent/President. Prior to Mendocino College, she worked on the budget at Santa Rosa Junior College for 11 years. She has MBA and BA degrees from Sonoma State University and is a proud community college graduate, earning her AA degree at SRJC.

## TEAM MEMBERS Cont.



**Stephen McGloughlin** has been a Dean at Cosumnes River College in Sacramento California, one of four colleges in the Los Rios CCD, for more than 20 years. Currently as Dean of Learning Resources & College Technology he is responsible for all IT services, the college Library, Distance Education, Media Services and Tutoring & Student Academic Support. During his 20 years at CRC he has also been Dean of ESL, Foreign Languages, Graphic Design and Repro Graphics. Stephen has also been the college's Information Security Officer and has served his District as President of Los Rios Management Association and as the permanent management representative on the Catastrophic Leave Review Board. Prior to CRC, Stephen worked for eight years at University of California Davis as manager of a NSF-funded biotech research facility and later as Director of Interactive Media Development. At UC Davis Stephen developed, and was an award-winning instructor in, their new digital multimedia program. He holds a patent with UC for novel interactive distance education software technology.



**Mr. Brian Murphy** has been working in the California Community College system for 12 years. He currently holds the position of Director of Institutional Research for Butte College. In this role, he leads the Office of Institutional Research, which is responsible for supporting the college's institutional effectiveness through information discovery. Prior to working for Butte, he served as the Associate Dean of Institutional Effectiveness and Research for Lassen College and Coordinator of Research and Planning for Feather River College. Through the years, Mr. Murphy has presented at several conferences on the topics of institutional effectiveness and research. He also served on the Executive Board of the RP Group from October 2016 through June 2021. During his time off, you are likely to find Brian traveling with his wife and three children or caring for his saltwater reef fish tank.



Born, raised, and educated in Southern California's "Inland Empire," **Aimee Myers** is a proud product of California public education. She received her Ph.D. in American History in 1995 from U.C. Riverside. Aimee moved to the North/Far North region to teach Social Studies and English in Humboldt County's Mattole Valley in 1998. In 2002, she landed a coveted full-time teaching position, teaching world and American history at Sierra College. For the next sixteen years, she was also actively involved in shared governance at the college, serving as Curriculum Chair, Student Learning Outcomes Coordinator, Academic Senate Vice-President, and Dual Enrollment Coordinator. In summer 2018, Aimee shifted focus to become part of the first cohort of Guided Pathways Coordinator's working for the Chancellor's Office and with the fifteen colleges of the North/Far North region. Aimee returned to Sierra College at the beginning of 2020 to act as their first Dual Enrollment Director. She currently supports a program that offers Sierra College classes in sixteen high schools and five school districts. Her focus is on equitable access, student and faculty support, and building partnerships to make both possible.

## TEAM MEMBERS Cont.



**Dr. L. Jane Saldaña-Talley** was appointed Santa Rosa Junior College Vice President of Academic Affairs/Assistant Superintendent in July 2018. Prior to assuming this role, Dr. Saldaña-Talley served for 11 years as SRJC's Vice President in charge of district-wide Institutional Planning and Effectiveness and Chief Administrator of SRJC's Petaluma campus. Dr. Saldaña-Talley also formerly served as the Vice President of Administrative Services at Paradise Valley Community College (Phoenix, AZ), Dean of College Planning and Budget and Dean of Allied Health/Family and Consumer Sciences at Modesto Junior College (CA), Vice President for Student Services at Columbia College (Sonora, CA) and Director of Research and Planning for the Yosemite Community College District. Dr. Saldaña-Talley holds a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from the University of California, Davis/California State University, Fresno Joint Doctoral Program, and Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Psychology from California State University, Fresno. She has served as coach and member of the core planning team for the IEPI Strategic Enrollment Management (SEM) Academy and Webinar series, and as a member of several IEPI Partnership Review Teams, accreditation team member, Accreditation Liaison Officer, ISER Standard Committee chair. She is currently a member of the California Community Colleges Chief Instruction Officers (CCCCIO) Executive Board as the Region 2 (North Central) representative.



**Amanda Taintor** is the faculty coordinator of instructional design at Reedley College. She is currently on release to serve as the faculty coordinator of distance education, outcomes and assessment, and Open Educational Resources for Reedley. She had the great honor to be an Open Education Resource Regional Liaison and Project Monitor with the statewide academic senate for the past 18 months. Before these roles, Amanda taught as a full-time child development instructor for eight years at Reedley College. Amanda serves on the Reedley College academic senate, the accreditation committee, the strategic planning committee, and numerous district committees centered on using technology in instruction.

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## TEAM MEMBERS Cont.



**Dr. Scott W. Thayer** has been an advocate for historically underrepresented students throughout his professional career. Dr. Thayer received his doctorate in Higher Education Administration and Leadership from the University of Southern California and his Master of Arts in Counseling and Guidance from Point Loma Nazarene University in California. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Rollins College in Florida and his Associate of Arts degree from Normandale Community College in Minnesota.

Currently, Dr. Thayer serves as the interim President at San Bernardino Valley College. He has served in various administrative capacities (Vice President, Dean, Assistant Dean, and Director) throughout his career at San Bernardino Valley College, Cuyamaca College, Pasadena City College and Los Angeles Southwest College. His administrative responsibilities have included the following college programs and areas: Admissions and Records, Counseling, Financial Aid, Athletics, Transfer, Outreach and Recruitment, Associated Students, Student clubs and organizations, Cross Cultural Center, Mentoring, Student Discipline, Commencement, Athletic Eligibility, Library, the Flea Market, and oversight of the following federally funded TRIO programs (Student Support Services, Upward Bound, Math/Science Upward Bound and Talent Search).

Dr. Thayer is an established grant writer and has secured over \$5M in grant funding to assist underrepresented students in their pursuit of a higher education. Scott W. Thayer has been active in professional development organizations such as the Association of California Community College Administrators (ACCCA) and the Have Faith, Be Strong (HFBS) organization for childhood cancer awareness. Dr. Thayer is a founding member of the non-profit organization African American Male Education Network and Development (A<sup>2</sup>MEND).

## TEAM ASSISTANT



**Dr. Loris Fagioli** is the Director of Research, Planning and Accreditation at Irvine Valley College. He is passionate about researching and scaling effective practices that close opportunity and equity gaps and that support student success. He is involved in state-wide initiatives such as the Multiple Measures Assessment Project (MMAP) and serves on the California Chancellor's Office Assessment Advisory Committee. He received his PhD from Claremont Graduate University and holds an MA in Educational Psychology and a BA in Math and Science Education.

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## ACCJC LIAISON



**Dr. Gohar Momjian** joined the ACCJC staff in September 2017. As Associate Vice Chancellor of Institutional Development, and Accreditation Liaison Officer (ALO) for City College of San Francisco from July 2012 until June 2015, she helped lead the College's improvement processes. More recently, she served as Interim Director of Operations at Cañada College. Prior to that, Momjian gained in-depth knowledge working with the WASC Senior College and University Commission as the ALO for the American University of Armenia. She holds a B.A. in Psychology with a specialization in Business Administration from UCLA, an M.A. in International Education, Administration and Policy Analysis from Stanford University, and an Ed.D from USC in Organizational Change and Leadership.

## Upcoming Important Dates

Will be posted on the Taft College Accreditation Website

<https://www.taftcollege.edu/iarp/accreditation/#>

**For any questions or concerns please call the  
Office of Institutional Research & Planning at (661) 763-7944**