What Trustees Need to Know About Accreditation

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What are the Purposes of Regional Accreditation?

- Provide quality assurance to the public, to students, to other institutions *that the institution is achieving its stated mission*
- Stimulate institutional improvement through evaluation, planning, implementation and evaluation again
- Give credibility to degrees and credentials awarded to students
Role of Trustees in Educational Quality

Stewardship of **Educational Quality** and **Fiscal Stability**

- The governing board is responsible for **ensuring educational quality**

- The governing board is responsible for ensuring that **the financial resources of the institution are used to provide a sound educational program**

- The governing board has a conflict of interest policy that insures that its interests are disclosed and that they do not interfere with the impartiality of governing board members or outweigh the greater duty to secure and ensure the **academic and fiscal integrity** of the institution.
Role of Trustees, continued

- The governing board *establishes policies consistent with the mission* to ensure the quality, integrity and improvement of student learning programs and services, and the resources necessary to support them.

- The *governing board delegates full responsibility to the CEO* to administer board policies and holds the CEO accountable for the operation of the institution.
The accreditation process is designed to help institutions focus on helping students learn what they are supposed to *learn*, and to *complete courses, certificates, degrees, and transfer or get jobs*.

The accreditation process *builds institutional capacity for educational excellence and institutional effectiveness that produces desired forms of student success*.
These may be *mission specific* and related to the institution’s set of educational programs

There should be *data over five years* prior to the Institutional Self Evaluation Report

Institution should *set targets, goals, or benchmarks*

Metrics should be *examined regularly and used for decision making*
Metrics: ACCJC Measures

- Course completion
- Enrollment in next course in sequence
- Completion of sequences, certificates, degrees
- Graduation, transfer, job placement
- Student learning relative to life/work – degree SLO’s
- Student learning associated with area of study – program SLO’s
Meet Standards at All Times?

- Yes
- Must have *internal quality review and quality improvement processes* – program review, planning, implementation of changes, assessment of learning outcomes, evaluation of institutional effectiveness
- Six–year accreditation checks on what should be *ongoing institutional practices* to review and improve quality
Thank You