As we near the end of the 2010-2011 academic year, we wanted to provide an update to the campus as to the progress we have made on our accreditation self-study.

The Steering Committee, which includes co-chairs of each Standard section (see list below) as well as representatives from MIR, and overall co-chairs, has meet periodically to share questions and concerns as well as highlight the activities of the individual Standard committees or sub-committees. We were also tasked by Chancellor Rota to conduct a “stress test”—that is, identify as early as possible those issues that should be addressed and resolved. Some of those issues have engaged the campus community in various ways this past year: implementation of new curriculum in English and Math in response to the recognized need for our students to be better prepared for college-level coursework; formation of a new group to follow up on last year’s extensive self-assessment of technology needs and uses; revising and refining the General Education requirements for our Career-Technical programs; and development of a plan for significant reorganization of the campus that is intended to create a more rational structure and more efficient function.

In the context of these dynamic and rather fluid conditions, our self-study committees have been working intensively to describe and assess the college in response to the questions posed by our accreditors. We are pleased to report that first drafts of the various sections of our report have now been submitted, with many thanks due to our co-chairs and their respective committee members. Overall Accreditation Co-Chairs VCAA Erika Lacro and ALO Marcia Roberts-Deutsch will review the report and provide feedback to the committees, so that updating and fine-tuning can proceed in Fall 2011, when we will be just a year away from the accrediting team visit. There is still much work to be done, but we can also take justifiable pride in what we have achieved.

So as we end this year, special thanks to the members of our Steering Committee, including Standard Co-Chairs:

I. INSTITUTIONAL MISSION AND EFFECTIVENESS: Kara Kam-Kalani, Fumi Takasugi

IIA. STUDENT LEARNING / INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS: Michael Jennings, Chris Ann Moore

IIB. STUDENT LEARNING / STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES: Farah Doiguchi, Jolene Suda
IIIC. STUDENT LEARNING / LIBRARY/LEARNING SUPPORT: Femar Lee, Stefanie Sasaki

IIIA. RESOURCES: HUMAN RESOURCES: Silvan Chung, Ralph Kam

IIIB. RESOURCES: PHYSICAL RESOURCES: Mike Barros, Chulee Grove, Nadine Leong-Kurio

IIIC. RESOURCES: TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES: Greg Witteman, Jonathan Wong

IIID. RESOURCES: FINANCIAL RESOURCES: Ken Kato, Irene Mesina

IV. LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE: Jennifer Higa-King, Erika Lacro

And

Ross Egloria, Lynn Inoshita, Steven Shigemoto (Research support).