

SACS Commission on Colleges

AN OVERVIEW

Principles of Accreditation

- ▶ Principle of Integrity
- ▶ Core Requirements (CR)
 - Governance, Administrative Structure, Mission, Curriculum, Learning Resources, Student Support Services, Financial and Physical Resources, Faculty, Evaluation and Planning, Quality Enhancement Plan
- ▶ Comprehensive Standards (CS)
 - Same as above but in further detail
- ▶ Federal Requirements (FR)
 - Student achievement, complaints, publication of policies, student authentication, credit hour, state authorization

Reaffirmation Process

- ▶ Leadership Orientation
- ▶ Compliance Certification
- ▶ Off-Site Committee Review
- ▶ Focused Report
- ▶ On-Site Committee Review
 - QEP
 - Non-Compliance Issues
 - Selected Issues for US DOE
- ▶ C&R Committee Review
- ▶ Executive Council Review
- ▶ Board Approval

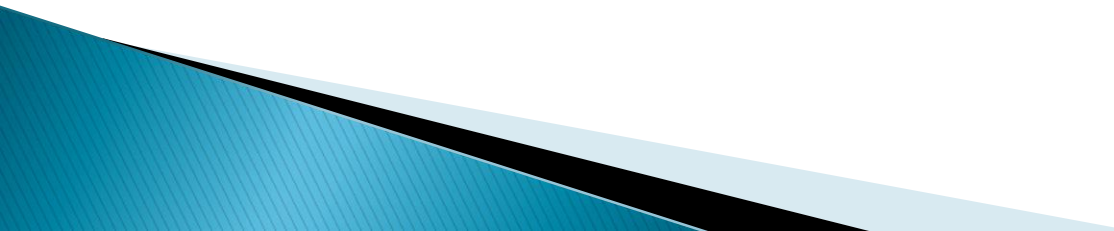
Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)

- ▶ Addressed by two *Principles*:
 - CR 2.12 and CS 3.3.2
- ▶ Assesses how well an institution is doing what it says it is doing, including the identification and assessment of student learning outcomes, and improvement based on the results

Substantive Change

If a member institution undertakes a change that is significant (“substantive”) such as a level change or change of ownership or developing off-campus sites, it must go through an approval process.

ROLES OF THE BOARD

- *Policy-making body*
 - *Hire, Evaluate and, when necessary, Fire the CEO*
 - *Fiduciary responsibility for the institution*
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UNDERSTANDING YOUR ROLE

Complementary but separate duties

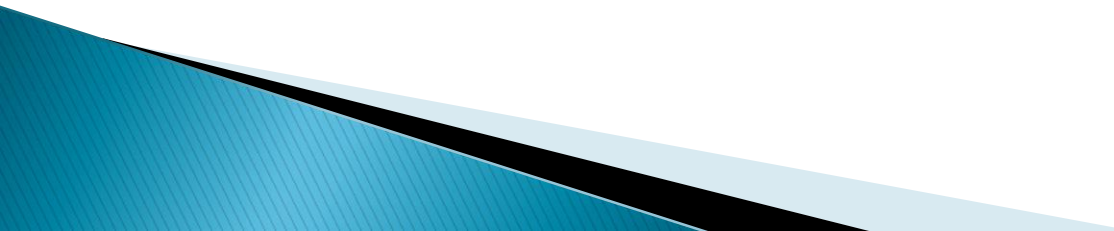
[Clear and appropriate distinction, in writing & in practice, between policy-making function of board & responsibility of administration & faculty to implement policy]. (CS 3.2.6)

BOARD STATUS/STRUCTURE

Is the legal body with authority over institution.

Minimum of five members.

Not controlled by a minority of board members or by organizations/interests separate from it. (CR 2.2)



ROLES OF THE BOARD

Responsibility & authority of faculty

[Policies on the responsibility and authority of faculty in governance and academic matters].

(CR 2.2 & CS 3.7.5)



ROLES OF THE BOARD

Academic freedom

[Ensures adequate procedures for safeguarding and protecting academic freedom]. (CS 3.7.4)

ROLES OF THE BOARD

Protect institution from undue influence

[Maintain freedom from undue influence from political, religious, or other external bodies and protects the institution from such influence]. (cs 3.2.4)

ROLES OF THE BOARD

Conflict of interest

[Presiding officer of the board & a majority of the other voting members of the board are free of any contractual, employment, or personal or familial financial interest in the institution]. (CS 2.2)

ROLES OF THE BOARD

Select and evaluate the CEO

[The governing board is responsible for the selection and the periodic evaluation of the chief executive officer]. (CS 3.2.1)

ROLES OF THE BOARD

Board member dismissal

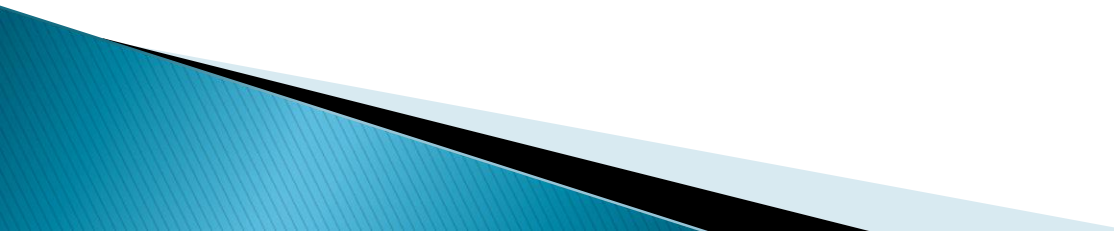
[Policy whereby board members can be dismissed only for appropriate reasons and by a fair process]. (CS 3.2.5)

ROLES OF THE BOARD

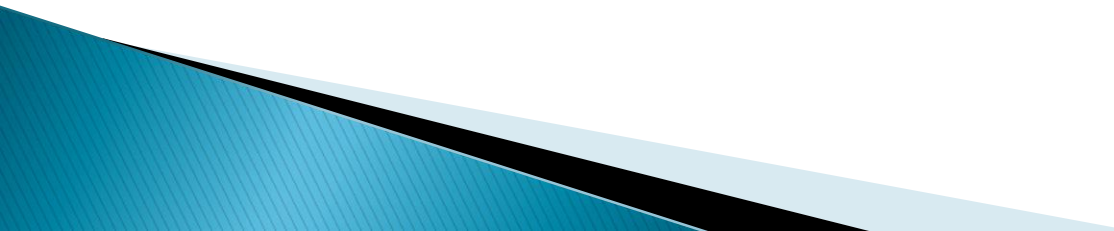
Ensuring adequate financial resources and stability (CR 2.2 ; CR 2.11.1; CS 3.10.1)

Provide appropriate financial statements (CR 2.11.1; CS 3.10.3; FR 4.7)

Institutional Issues

- ▶ Student Success
 - Planning and Assessment
 - Remedial Education
 - Completion/Graduation Rates
 - Retention Rates
 - Program Review
 - Transfer of Credits
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National Issues

- ▶ Completion/Graduation Rates
 - ▶ Employability
 - ▶ Accountability
 - ▶ Affordability and Cost
 - ▶ Remedial Education
 - ▶ For-profit Institutions
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SACSCOC Students Are Central to Success

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