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State Center Community College District

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September 30, 2015

California State Chancellor's Office
 Chancellor Dr. Brice Harris

West Hills Community College District
 Chancellor Dr. Frank Gornick

Dear Dr. Harris and Dr. Gornick:

State Center Community College District appreciates all of the work done by the Task Force on Accreditation. It is clear that the task force has opened up a dialogue that is long overdue. We are in agreement with the conclusion of the task force that changes in the accreditation process are needed.

The recommendations made by the task force are a good starting point and worth exploring. However, the recommendations as presented, require a much greater and broader discussion. It is our hope that we do not rush to a final judgement. Instead, we should give more thought to the type of changes that will best serve California community colleges.

On the September 16, 2015 Region 3 CEO conference call, there was a healthy discussion among Central Valley CEO's about bringing this issue to CCLC in November. This would be an opportune time to have this as an agenda item at the CEO meeting to discuss the task force recommendations in addition to the next course of action. In addition, we would possess feedback from the upcoming Special Meeting of the Commission which will be held on October 9, 2015.

Changing the way our colleges are accredited in the future is a major decision. It is a critical decision that will affect California community colleges for a very long time. Now that the task force has completed its report, we feel it would serve all of our college's best to make sure there is a full discussion with our constituency groups and as CEO's before a decision is made. In our opinion, the role of elected community college trustees in this matter needs to be defined and considered.

Sincerely,

Dr. Bill F. Stewart
 Interim Chancellor
 State Center Community College District

Deborah J. Ikeda
 President
 Clovis Community College

Dr. Sandra Caldwell
 President
 Reedley College

Dr. Cynthia Azari
 Interim President
 Fresno City College

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