


Date: June 22, 2020

To: Chief Executive Officers, District Chancellors, and Accreditation Liaison Officers of ACCJC Member Institutions; Other Interested Parties

From: Stephanie Droker, Ed.D. 
ACCJC President

Subject: ACCJC Hires Two Vice Presidents

After completing a very competitive hiring process, it is my pleasure to inform the field that ACCJC has two new vice presidents joining our team this summer:



Dr. Kevin Bontenbal will join the Commission staff in August 2020, bringing with him 23 years of accreditation and college leadership experience, and a strong commitment to the higher education community college system. For the past five years, he has served as an academic Commissioner chairing the Substantive Change and Policy Committees and as a peer reviewer on many external site visits. Most recently, he was the Instructional Technology Librarian/Faculty at Cuesta College. In 2014, Dr. Bontenbal received the Cuesta Presidential Leadership Award for his role in leading the college from show cause to reaffirmation. He has a strong background in college governance and leadership having served in many roles, including Academic Senate President, Curriculum Chair, Accreditation Co-Chair, and Faculty Professional Development Coordinator. From 2010-2013, he also served on the Executive Committee for the statewide Academic Senate of California Community Colleges. Dr. Bontenbal holds a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from the University of California, Santa Barbara, a Master of Library Science from Syracuse University, and two bachelor's degrees in Philosophy and Religious Studies from California State University, Chico. Dr. Bontenbal writes, "I'm honored to be a Vice President of ACCJC and I look forward to the opportunity of working together with the rest of ACCJC's team in making the self-reflective and improvement nature of accreditation meaningful, responsive, and transformative."



Dr. Catherine Webb will join the Commission staff in August 2020. Throughout her career, Dr. Webb has a demonstrated commitment to practices for organizational development and continuous improvement that lead to equitable learning, teaching, and student success. Since joining the California Community College system in 2010, she has gained in-depth experience with ACCJC accreditation practices through administrative and faculty positions related to accreditation and institutional effectiveness. Most recently, she was Senior Dean of College Planning & Institutional Effectiveness and Accreditation Liaison Officer (ALO) at Grossmont College, where she provided administrative leadership for accreditation, strategic and

annual unit planning, program review processes, and outcomes assessment. Prior to that, Dr. Webb was a faculty librarian and ALO at Monterey Peninsula College (MPC); she also served as the founding dean of MPC's Office of Planning, Research, and Institutional Effectiveness. She holds a B.A. in Music and English from Illinois Wesleyan University, an M.A. in the History and Theory of Music from the University of Chicago, an MLIS from Dominican University (River Forest, Illinois), and an Ed.D. in Organizational Leadership from Brandman University. Dr. Webb writes, "I am honored and humbled to serve as an ACCJC Vice President, and I'm thrilled to join a strong and dynamic team at ACCJC that seeks to transform our region's accreditation practices to better support organizational learning and educational equity at our member colleges."

ACCJC will continue to operate under the vice president staff liaison model. Notifications of the new staff liaison assignments will be sent to member institutions in early fall, after Dr. Bontenbal and Dr. Webb join the team. We very much look forward to working with each of them, and are confident that they will be thoughtful and engaged liaisons, supporting ACCJC member institutions in their work of continuous quality improvement on behalf of the students and communities they serve.