SIGNIFICANCE:
• Although there are about 90 individualized accreditations that occur for various schools or units at UCSF, WASC accredits the campus as a whole, once every 10 years.
• WASC (Western Association of Schools and Colleges) is an accrediting commission for senior colleges and universities that reports to the U.S. Department of Education

3-STEP PROCESS:
• Self-Assessment to explore themes for improving the institution within the context of WASC standards (2006-2007; Proposal due May 2007)
• Capacity/Preparatory Review: does the institution have the capacity and infrastructure for learning to occur? (Site Visit 2009)
• Educational Effectiveness Review: does learning occur and is the institution itself learning from its ongoing inquiry about student learning? (Site Visit 2010)

WASC STANDARDS:
1: Defining Institutional Purposes and Ensuring Educational Objectives: (1) how the institution measures its success, and (2) how the institution ensures that it is operating with integrity
2: Achieving Educational Objectives through Core Functions: (1) teaching and learning; (2) scholarship and creative activity; and (3) support for student learning
3: Developing and Applying Resources and Organizational Structures to Ensure Sustainability: (1) faculty and staff; (2) fiscal, physical and information resources; and (3) organizational structures and decision-making processes
4: Creating an Organization Committed to Learning and Improvement: (1) strategic thinking and planning; and (2) commitment to learning and improvement

SELF-ASSESSMENT THEMES (Tentative-input from campus strategic plan):
1: The challenge of operating in a multi-site campus (IT; communication; community)
2: New technology in education
3: Student learning outcomes
4: Student and campus diversity

WASC ACCREDITATION STEERING COMMITTEE (2005-2006):
Sally Marshall, Chair (Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs)
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Harold Bernstein (Pediatrics; Academic Senate Committee on Academic Planning & Budget)
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Harold Bernstein, MD PhD
APB 9/19/06