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WSCUC Reaccreditation

Campus Visit Preparation

Redefine the Possible℠

Purpose of the Presentation

This briefing previews the February visit, what the WSCUC team will focus on, and how faculty and the campus community can take part.

01	**Accreditation**	Explain what accreditation is, why it matters to Sac State and who is leading the efforts
02	**The campus visit**	What to expect during the February 17–19, 2027 visit.
03	**Faculty participation**	Explain how the campus community can contribute before and during the visit.
04	**Review team focus areas**	Introduce the Lines of Inquiry and how they will guide the team's campus conversations.

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WSCUC overview

The regional accreditor for Sacramento State

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WSCUC Overview

WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC)

Peer review that supports educational quality and institutional improvement

01 **Established in 1962**
Created to evaluate and accredit institutions in the Western Region. WSCUC now serves institutions in the United States and internationally.

02 **Federal recognition**
Recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as a reliable authority on higher education quality.

03 **Peer review**
Conducts accreditation reviews that support accountability, federal compliance, and continuous improvement.

04 **Educational effectiveness**
Promotes student learning and evidence-based decision-making.

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01

Why accreditation matters

Accreditation supports quality, accountability, and continuous improvement

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Why Accreditation Matters



Educational quality and accountability

Assures quality in service of students, families, and the public.



Continuous improvement

Uses regular assessment and evidence to strengthen institutional decision-making.



Access to federal financial aid

Maintains eligibility for programs such as Pell Grants and federal loans.



Credit transfer and degree value

Supports transferability and confidence among employers and graduate schools.

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Why Accreditation Matters to Sacramento State

Accreditation affirms the value of a Sacramento State education and supports the university's ongoing improvement.

STUDENTS

Helps maintain access to federal financial aid and supports the transfer and recognition of Sacramento State credits and degrees.

UNIVERSITY

Confirms that Sacramento State meets WSCUC standards for educational quality, student support, and institutional effectiveness.

IMPROVEMENT

Brings external feedback that informs planning and strengthens academic programs, services, and campus operations.

Every division contributed evidence and perspective to the accreditation review.

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Accreditation Liaison Officer (ALO)

Elisa Trimboli, ALO

Director of Academic Excellence and Strategic Engagement, Office of the Provost

01	**Primary point of contact**	Connects Sacramento State and WSCUC.
02	**Coordinates accreditation**	Organizes campus accreditation activities and communication.
03	**Supports compliance**	Tracks WSCUC standards, policies, and timelines.
04	**Prepares the campus**	Supports campus engagement, reports, and visit preparation.

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Steering Committee — 2026–27

Co-chairs: Elisa Trimboli and Michael Nguyen

Jackie Brooks Faculty, Academic Affairs	Sara Besaiso ASI, Inc.	Jose Ballesteros Student Affairs & IE
Hogan Hayes Faculty, Academic Affairs	Jenn Galinato ASI, Inc.	Marcellene Watson-Derbigny Student Affairs & IE
Matthew Krauel Faculty, Academic Affairs	Kristen Tudor Office of the President	Daniel Manomai ABA
Corinne Rowland IRT	Krystle Peay University Staff Assembly	Beverly Gentry People & Climate
Shiva Pillai IRT	Glen Schaezlein Facilities Management	Mae Chaplin Academic Affairs
Jessica Vernone University Communications	Michael Nguyen Inclusive Excellence	Elisa Trimboli Academic Affairs

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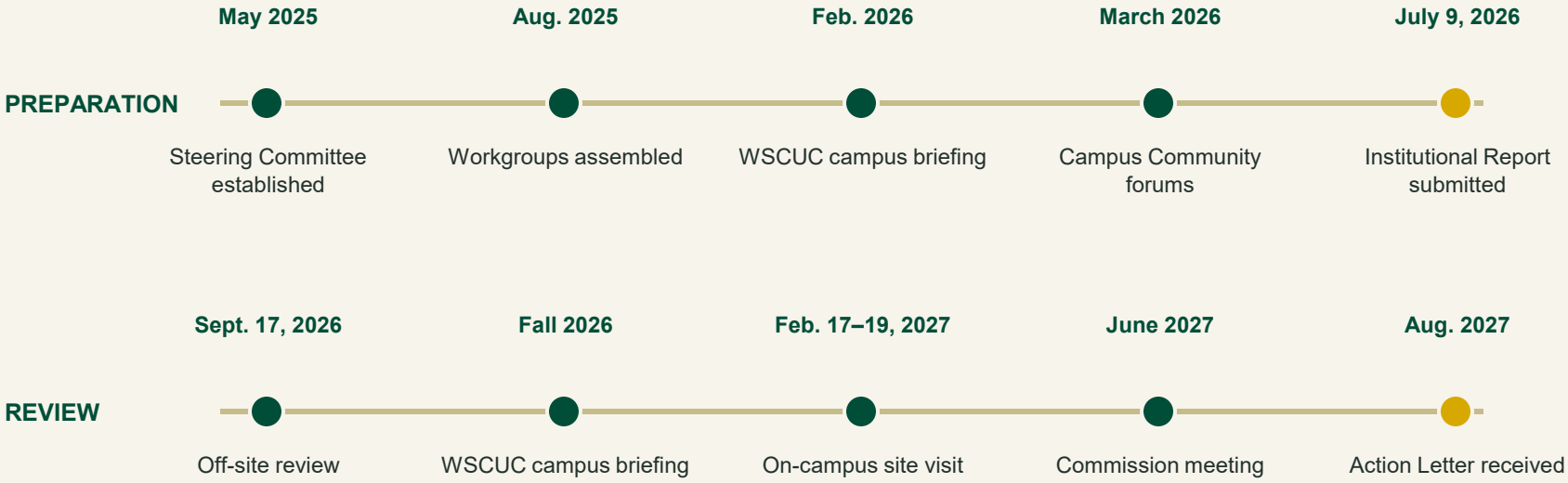
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Campus Visit – Process and Timeline

The regional accreditor for Sacramento State

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WSCUC Reaffirmation of Accreditation Timeline



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What to Expect During the Campus Site Visit

FEB

17–19

2027

Three-day campus visit

Meetings:

The team will meet with students, faculty, staff, administrators, and university leaders.

The schedule includes open forums and meetings with groups the team requested.

Discussions:

The Lines of Inquiry guide the team's questions and conversations.

Participants can share candid perspectives and specific examples from their experience.

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Campus Visit Meetings and Participants

Leadership and governance

- Academic Affairs Leadership Team
- Academic Research Leadership (Research, Innovation & Economic Development)
- Administrative Leadership Team
- Advancement
- ALO
- Athletics
- Budget Director
- CFO
- Financial Representative from the CSU System Office
- Deans
- Department Chairs
- Faculty Senate
- President's Cabinet
- Provost
- Student Affairs Leadership
- Vice President for Academic Affairs

Programs, services, and forums

- Assessment Professionals (program review and student success separately)
- Career Services
- Communications Director
- Community Advisory Board (if one exists)
- Distance Education Leadership
- Enrollment Management/Registrar
- Facilities Director
- Faculty Success, Faculty Affairs, Center for Teaching and Learning
- IT support
- Office of Institutional Research, Effectiveness, and Planning
- Recruitment and Retention Team
- Report Preparation Committee
- Student, Faculty, Staff Open Meetings

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03

Campus Participation

Review the purpose and expectations

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How the Campus Community Will Participate

1

INVITED MEETINGS

The review team has identified groups and individuals for focused conversations about areas it wants to understand more about. The ALO will coordinate with invited participants and share schedule details.

2

OPEN FORUMS

The entire campus community can attend open forums and meet with the WSCUC review team. An open forum will be held for faculty, staff, and students.

3

CONFIDENTIAL FEEDBACK

Before the visit, WSCUC will open a confidential email account. Authorized WSCUC staff and team members can view submissions; if comments inform findings, the author's identity will be protected.

LATE JANUARY 2027 **Watch for a campus message with the confidential email address and instructions.**

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How We'll Communicate About the Visit

1

REQUESTED MEETINGS

Over the next month, the ALO will coordinate meeting times with WSCUC and contact campus leaders. Confirmed participants will receive calendar invitations.

In January, the Steering Committee will brief participants on the review team and what to expect.

2

OPEN FORUMS AND EMAIL FEEDBACK

Information will be shared through SacSends and division and department emails. Please share these messages with faculty and staff in your area.

Encourage colleagues to attend open forums or share confidential feedback by email.

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04

WSCUC review team's Lines of Inquiry

Focus areas that will guide the campus visit

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What Are Lines of Inquiry?

The Lines of Inquiry guide the team's campus conversations and evidence requests.

- Focus areas emerged after the team reviewed Sac State's report and evidence.
- The questions identify areas the team wants to understand better during the visit.
- They guide meetings, conversations, and requests for information.
- The team does not expect written responses; these are not findings or conclusions.

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WSCUC Team Commendations

The Review Team commends Sacramento State for:

- An intentional focus on serving all students across the institution through programs and initiatives designed to support student success in alignment with the university's mission.
- Securing the new Carnegie designation as an R2 research institution and for early progress bolstering faculty research.
- Commitment to serving the Sacramento community, including a large number of local students, and to developing the downtown Sacramento campus.

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Summary of Sac State's Lines of Inquiry

1 — Change Management

2 — Student Success and Support Services

3 — Financial Sustainability and Independence

4 — Strategic Planning and Institutional Improvement

5 — Program Review and Assessment

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1

LINE OF INQUIRY

Change Management

- What is the overall strategy for communication and soliciting feedback?
- How does the institution evaluate communication strategies to understand their impact and reach?
- What are the lines of authority, responsibility, and coordination across and within academic offices and units?
- How does Enrollment Management collaborate with other offices throughout the campus to accomplish strategic goals?

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LINE OF INQUIRY

Student Success and Support Services

- How do Student Affairs and Academic Affairs collaborate in designing and implementing student success programs, initiatives, and opportunities?
- How are faculty engaged in supporting student success in and beyond the classroom?
- How do students learn about and locate programs, support services, and new opportunities designed to improve student success?
- What strategy reaches students beyond relying on students to seek support services themselves?

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3

LINE OF INQUIRY

Financial Sustainability and Independence

- What progress has the institution made toward financial independence, and what strategies would help achieve institutional goals?
- Which financial models support the assumptions?
- How does the Strategic Enrollment Management plan contribute to financial stability?
- What is the reserve funds policy, and how does it guide the university in making new investments?
- How does the reserve funds policy help address deficits, including the self-reported $3.1 million budget deficit and recent news reports of a $37 million deficit?

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LINE OF INQUIRY

Strategic Planning and Institutional Improvement

- How does the institution move from institutional learning to implementation?
- How is the institution building the trust needed for improvement?
- How are faculty engaged in university-wide initiatives?
- How will the institution balance greater faculty engagement with new administrative structures?
- How are campus climate surveys, beyond ACE, used to inform improvements?
- How are new initiatives and institutional improvements aligned with the Presidential Imperatives?

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LINE OF INQUIRY

Program Review and Assessment

- How are faculty engaged in the design and implementation of the new assessment framework, and what resources are available to support these efforts?
- How is the institution assessing the effectiveness of new initiatives and programs?
- How do approaches to academic program review differ from approaches to administrative program review?

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Thank you

Your perspective will help the review team understand the faculty experience at Sacramento State.

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