



DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
State Fire Training Division

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Date: April 18, 2014

Attachment 2

To: Ronny J. Coleman, Chairman
Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee
c/o State Fire Training

From: Rodney Slaughter, Deputy State Fire Marshal

Subject/Agenda Action Item: Reaccreditation for Sierra College

Recommended Actions:

The accreditation site team recommends that Sierra College becomes reaccredited as an Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP) in the State Fire Training (SFT) System.

Background Information:

The site team consisted Ronny J. Coleman, STEAC Representative, Scott Ventura, Community College Representative, Leona Allen, Community College Representative and Rodney Slaughter as the SFT Representative.

Sierra College provides Career Technical and Vocational Education and does not intrude upon or compete with other accredited college programs in the greater Sacramento Region. The campus has the support of the administration and the local area fire chiefs. The campus offers CFSTES, FSTEP, CICCIS along with the core fire science curriculum and classes. The fire academy staff is very familiar with SFT business processes and procedures and they are very mindful of the changes occurring in the system.

Analysis/Summary of Issue:

The site team met with Tim Palmer, Fire Technology Coordinator and members of the Fire Advisory Committee including Chief Marcus Reed of the Roseville Fire Department. Other fire chiefs along with instruction staff met with the site team members to discuss the direction of Sierra College. This campus has traditionally enjoyed very strong support from local area departments in terms of donated tools, equipment, and supplies along with a cadre of registered SFT instructors.

The team was shown another application of the I-Pad, where fire academy instructors and assistants use the pads to record the student's progress both grades and actual video clips of the student performing critical tasks. Their computer generated evaluation system, which the college

has worked with a local vendor to create, is worthy of best management practice consideration. Site team members were very impressed by its comprehensiveness and ease of use.

Among the initial group that greeted the site team were a half dozen members of former Sierra College Fire academies. The campus has established a system called "HUB" that allow students to help other students. The team was shown a marketing video that displays and encourages diversity among its student population. Each graduating class of students also prepares a memento video of their academy. Cadets maintain their communication with each other through their Academy Facebook page.

At the main Sierra College campus the site team was introduced to the college's administration. Sierra College President William "Willie" Duncan, Vice President of Instruction, Dr. Deb Sutphen along with the Dean of Business and Applied Academics, Dr. Sonja Lolland, who had all taken time to meet with the site team. The site team was able to ask the colleges administration questions and the team was impressed with their commitment to the Fire Technology program.

The team took one last tour; the Roseville Gateway Training Facility, where classrooms are available for many of the fire and other emergency services related training program. This is also the office of the Fire Technology Director. Here the student/class records were reviewed for compliance with the SFT procedures manual.

The site team did not note any deficiencies on the tour of the training center, campus or Gateway Center. The program has an adequate amount of tools, equipment, and props to adequately serve the students and the staff. The site team unanimously agreed that Sierra College meets all the State Fire Training criteria to become reaccredited as an Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP).