



Outcomes | Innovation | Improvement

ACCREDITING COMMISSION FOR
COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to share that the Council of Recognized Accrediting Commissions (C-RAC) recently convened a National Data Summit, bringing together leaders from higher education, business, philanthropy, and government to explore how improved data systems can strengthen transparency, accountability, and student success across higher education. Following the summit, C-RAC released [*Accountability with Integrity: A National Framework for Data-Informed Education Accountability*](#), an environmental scan informed by more than 30 higher education data experts.

The summit discussions focused on how better data can help students and families make informed decisions, support institutional improvement, strengthen public trust, and better connect educational outcomes with workforce needs. Participants identified opportunities to advance federal data reform, support state-level data interoperability initiatives, and develop stronger partnerships to measure the full value of postsecondary education.

As Chair of C-RAC, I believe these conversations are essential as we work collectively to ensure that higher education accountability systems remain meaningful, transparent, and responsive to the needs of students, institutions, employers, and communities.

I encourage you to read the press release and environmental scan to learn more about this important work: <https://www.c-rac.org/post/college-accreditors-host-national-data-summit-release-environmental-scan-to-explore-opportunities-t>.

Kind regards,
Mac

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "Mac Powell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mac Powell, MBA, PhD

President

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC)

Office: 415-506-0234

Direct: 425-892-0214

Email: mac@accjc.org

Website: www.accjc.org

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