Biennial Reports and Program Assessment
Professional Services Division
June 6 & 7, 2007

Overview of this Report

This item provides an update on the pilot of Biennial Reports in Spring-Summer 2007 and the preparation for Biennial Reports and Program Assessment activities in 2007-08.

Staff Recommendation

This is an information item.

Background

Staff has continued to work with program sponsors to describe and prepare for implementation of both the Biennial Report and Program Assessment processes. In 2007-08, the Orange, Green and Violet cohorts will be submitting Biennial Reports. The Yellow cohort will participate in Program Assessment in 2007-08.

Biennial Reports

Currently there are seventeen program sponsors that have agreed to participate in the pilot of the Biennial Reports, although staff is continuing to talk with institutions and program sponsors to identify additional programs to pilot the Biennial Report process. Of those programs that have committed to the pilot, seven programs are Multiple Subject, three are Single Subject, five are Special Education, two are Administrative Services and one is a Pupil Personnel Services program. The institutions represent the University of California (UC), Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities (AICCU), and county office of education preparation programs.

After the pilot Biennial Reports have been reviewed, staff plans to work with all piloting programs to gather information related to the strengths and challenges of the current template for the report. Staff is planning to set up a meeting for programs that are participating in the pilot of the Biennial Report. At the meeting, all programs that participate in the pilot process would be able to share what worked well for them, what was challenging and make suggestions for improving the Biennial Report Template. Staff will bring all information to the COA for consideration once the information has been gathered.

For the 2007-08 reports, staff will communicate with the institutions and program sponsors in the Orange, Green and Violet cohorts to share the information that is gathered from the pilot to assist the program sponsors in preparing the Biennial Report.

Program Assessment
There are eighteen program sponsors in the yellow cohort that will participate in Program Assessment in 2007-08. Program Assessment documents will be submitted in October 2007, January 2008 or March 2008. As of this time, we have information from fifteen of the eighteen program sponsors that will participate in Program Assessment. Staff is working to organize the list of programs that will submit programs in each of the three submission months so that there are the appropriate program assessment reviewers trained and ready to review the program documents.

Next Steps
Staff will continue to work with institutions and program sponsors as the revised accreditation system is implemented. At the August COA meeting, staff will provide an update on the number and types of programs that will be participating in Program Assessment and the information from the pilot of the Biennial Reports.