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Visiting and Evaluating, cont.

team member from Pierce College to serve on the team. Dr. Margarita Pillado agreed to accompany me on the visit as the team assistant. This is a unique opportunity for Margarita to become an experienced evaluator, which will deepen her preparation for chairing the Pierce College self-evaluation team for our spring 2016 visit. Participating in site visits is also an opportunity to see how other community colleges respond to the eligibility requirements, the standards, and the

Lobbying

On Sunday, January 26 and Monday, January 27, I had an opportunity to join a delegation with Interim Chancellor Barrera, John McDowell and Joanne Waddell of the Faculty Guild, four fellow college presidents, and our lobbyist, Patrick McCallum at the annual Community College League Conference and Lobby Day in Sacramento. On Sunday, the legislative conference was in full gear, including breakout sessions on financial aid, redesigning and reinvesting in Adult Education, using Student Equity Plans to close the achievement gap, as well as several updates on state-

Planning

Negotiating

Since the majority of employees are in a union, many of you may be aware that all six collective bargaining agreements will sunset on June 30, 2014. With six bargaining agreements to negotiate, the presidents, vice presidents, and the administrative staff at the Educational Services Center are expected to serve on the six management teams as representatives. Since we cannot be "released" or "reassigned" from our regular duties, we are asked to assume this additional work under "other duties as assigned" portion of our job descriptions. All or almost all of the presidents are required to serve on a management negotiating team. In October, Marvin Martinez and I were asked to serve on the management team assigned to negotiate with the Faculty Guild. In addition to serving on the team, Chancellor Barrera asked me to be the lead negotiator.

At the request of the Faculty Guild, we are using an Interest Based Bargaining (IBB) approach to negotiations in this round, which required that both teams go through training together on the IBB process. We went through two days of IBB training in November. We are committed to the goal of completing negotiations before the current agreement sunsets in June. As a