

ACCREDITING COMMISSION for COMMUNITY and JUNIOR COLLEGES

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Dr. Patricia Hsieh President San Diego Miramar College 10440 Black Mountain Road San Diego, CA 92126

Dear President Hsieh:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting January 11-13, 2011, reviewed the Institutional Self Study Report, the report of the evaluation team which visited San Diego Miramar College Monday, October 11-Thursday, October 14, 2010, and the letter received by the Commission on January 4, 2010. The Commission acted to issue **Warning** and require that San Diego Miramar College correct the deficiencies noted. The College is required to complete a Follow-Up Report by **October 15, 2011**. That report will be followed by a visit of Commission representatives.

Warning is issued when the Commission finds that an institution has pursued a course of action which deviates from the Commission's Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards, or policy to an extent that raises a concern regarding the ability of the institution to meet the Standards. The accredited status of the institution continues during the Warning period. However, the institution's accreditation will not be reaffirmed until the conditions which warranted Warning are resolved. Warning is being issued at this time for deficiencies identified in the team report and associated with College Recommendation 4 from the 2004 evaluation team and 2010 Recommendation 4.

The Follow-Up Report of October 15, 2011 should demonstrate resolution of the recommendations noted below:

2010 Recommendation 1

The team recommends that the college increase its capacity to foster a culture of evidence to support not only the assessment of progress toward achieving its stated goals, but also its planning processes, resource allocation, and evaluation mechanisms as they relate to the improvement of institutional effectiveness. (I.B.3, I.B.4, I.B.5, I.B.7, III.C)

2010 Recommendation 3

The team recommends that the college improve and fully implement its evaluation processes for all employee groups by:

- Creating a tracking system that clearly indicates the status and completion of evaluations, including those for adjunct faculty and classified staff, and
- Adding a student learning outcomes component in faculty evaluations. (III.A.1.b, III.A.1.c)

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2010 Recommendation 4

The team recommends that the college take action to resolve the problem of excessive turnover in its administrative leadership. (III.A.2, IV.B.2, IV.B.2.a, IV.B.2.b, IV.B.2.c; Eligibility Requirement 5)

2004 Recommendation 1

The College build upon efforts to foster a "culture of evidence" through campus-based institutional research. (Standard I.B.4, I.B.5, I.B.6)

2004 Recommendation 3

Acquire library materials and database at a level sufficient to support student learning. (Standard II.C.1)

2004 Recommendation 4

The college uses its strategic plan to drive the development and full integration of the educational master plan with the technology, facilities, and human resources plans and related institutional processes. The human resources plan should be developed with special attention to providing sufficient administrative and staff members for projected institutional growth. (Standard III.A.6, III.B.1, III.B.2, III.B.2, III.C.2, III.D.1.a, III.D.1.b)

2004 District Recommendation 3

In order to build upon their efforts to strengthen institutional effectiveness and to foster a culture of evidence throughout the district, the district office and the colleges should cooperate in the development of an enhanced research function with both strong district and strong College components. (Standard I.B.3, I.B.6, IV.B.2.b)

I wish to inform you that under U.S. Department of Education regulations, institutions out of compliance with standards or on sanction are expected to correct deficiencies within a two-year period or the Commission must take action to terminate accreditation. San Diego Miramar College must correct the deficiencies noted by October 2011 or the Commission will be compelled to act.

Commission Reminder: The Commission expects that institutions meet Accreditation Standards that require the identification and assessment of student learning outcomes, and the use of assessment data to plan and implement improvements to educational quality, by fall 2012. The Commission reminds San Diego Miramar College that it must be prepared to demonstrate that it meets these Standards by fall 2012. (Standards I.B.1, II.A.2.e, II.A.2.f, II.B.4, and II.C.2, III.A.1.c)

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I have previously sent you a copy of the Evaluation Team Report. Additional copies may now be duplicated. The Commission requires that you give the Evaluation Team Report and this letter dissemination to your College staff and to those who were signatories of your College Self Study Report. This group should include the Chancellor, campus leadership, and the Board of Trustees. The Commission also requires that the team report and the Self Study Report be made available to students and the public. Placing copies in the College library can accomplish this. Should you want an electronic copy of the report, please contact Commission staff.

The recommendations contained in the Evaluation Team Report represent the observations of the evaluation team at the time of the visit. The Commission reminds you that while an institution may concur or disagree with any part of the team report, the College is expected to use the report to improve educational programs and services and to resolve issues identified by the Commission.

The College conducted a comprehensive self study as part of its evaluation. The Commission suggests that the plans for improvement of the institution included in its self study efforts be used to support the continuing improvement of San Diego Miramar College.

Finally, ACCJC staff is available to assist the College with consultation and advice on the recommendations identified above.

On behalf of the Commission, I wish to express continuing interest in the institution's educational quality and students' success. Professional self-regulation is the most effective means of assuring institutional integrity, effectiveness, and quality.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Beno, Ph.D.

President

BAB/tl

cc: Dr. Constance Carroll, Chancellor

Barbara a Beno

Dr. Kathy Werle, Accreditation Liaison Officer

Board President, Rancho Santiago CCD

Dr. Susan Carleo, Team Chair