



ACCREDITING
COMMISSION
for COMMUNITY and
JUNIOR COLLEGES

June 25, 2004

Dr. W. David Pelham
Superintendent-President
College of the Siskiyous
800 College Avenue
Weed, CA 96094

Dear President Pelham:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting on June 9-11, 2004, reviewed the institutional self study report and the report of the evaluation team which visited College of the Siskiyous on Tuesday, March 9-Thursday, March 11, 2004. I am pleased to inform you that accreditation has been reaffirmed, with a requirement that the college complete a Progress Report.

The Commission asks that a Progress Report be submitted by October 15, 2005. The Progress Report should focus on the recommendations and concerns as noted below:

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Recommendation 3. The college develop an institution-wide process, with timelines and responsible parties, for the establishment of specific student learning outcomes for courses, programs, general education, certificates and degrees, and for student services; the assessment of student and employee achievement of those outcomes; and the utilization of the assessment results in a systematic way to make improvements. (IIA.1.c, IIA.2, IIA.3, IIB.1, IIB.4, IIC.1, IIC.2)

The college is commended for the collaboration among members of the college community in the development of its self study, the care it takes in keeping the campus attractive and safe, and its creative use of public and private partnerships in serving students. Additionally, the college is commended for its development and implementation of technology.

I have previously sent you a copy of the evaluation team report. Additional copies may now be duplicated. The Commission requires you to give the report and this letter appropriate dissemination to your college staff and to those who were signatories of your college self study. This group should include the campus leadership and the Board of Trustees.

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The Commission also requires that the report and the self study be made available to the public. Placing copies in the college library can accomplish this. Should you want the report electronically to place on your web site or for some other purpose, 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 an institution may concur or disagree with any part of the team report, but the college is expected to use the report to improve the educational programs and services &the institution.

All colleges are required to file a Midterm Report in the third year after each comprehensive evaluation. College of the Siskiyous should submit the Midterm Report by March 15, 2007. Midterm Reports indicate progress toward meeting the evaluation team's recommendations and forecast where the college expects to be by the time of the next comprehensive evaluation. The college also includes a summary of progress on college-identified concerns as expressed in the self study.

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 that document be taken into account in the continuing development of College of the Siskiyous. The next comprehensive evaluation of the college will occur during spring 2010.

Finally, let me take this opportunity to remind you that federal legislation affecting accrediting agencies requires that accredited colleges conduct systematic assessment of educational outcomes, including student achievement and student learning. A further requirement is that accrediting agencies pay close attention to student loan default rates.

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

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Beno
Executive Director

BAB/tl

ec: Mr. Steve Reynolds, Accreditation Liaison Officer
Board President, College of the Siskiyous
Dr. Sherrill Amador, Team Chair
Evaluation Team Members