



**ACCREDITING
COMMISSION
for COMMUNITY and
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

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June 30, 2011

Ms. Denise Whittaker
Interim Superintendent/President
Southwestern College
900 Otay Lakes Road
Chula Vista, CA 91910

Dear President Whittaker:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting June 8-10, 2011, reviewed the Follow-Up Report submitted by the College and the report of the evaluation team which visited Monday, April 11, 2011. The Commission took action to **remove probation and reaffirm accreditation.**

The Commission noted that Southwestern College has made many recent improvements to institutional practices to resolve accreditation deficiencies. The Commission expects that the institution's Midterm Report, due in fall 2012, will provide evidence that the institution has sustained its program review and planning activities and has also sustained the new Board policies and procedures that guide the Board's adherence to its appropriate roles.

Commission Reminder: The Commission expects that institutions meet 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 Southwestern 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, II.C.2, and III.A.1.c).

The Follow-Up Report will become part of the accreditation history of the College and should be used in preparing for the next comprehensive evaluation. 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 report and this letter appropriate dissemination to your college staff and to those who were signatories of your college report. This group should include campus leadership and the Board of Trustees. The Commission also requires that all reports be made available to students and the public. Placing a copy on the college web site can accomplish this. Should you require an electronic copy of the report, please contact Commission staff.

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All colleges are required to file a Midterm Report in the third year after each comprehensive evaluation. Southwestern College should submit the Midterm Report **October 15, 2012**.

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. Mink Stavenga, Accreditation Liaison Officer
Board President, Southwestern Community College District
Dr. Gari Browning, Team Chair