

ACCREDITING
COMMISSION
for COMMUNITY and
JUNIOR COLLEGES

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Dr. Thomas Harris Interim Superintendent/President College of the Redwoods 7351 Tompkins Hill Road Eureka, CA 95501



Dear President Harris:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting on January 9-11, 2008, reviewed the Progress Report submitted by the college and the report of the evaluation team which visited on Monday, November 5, 2007. The Commission took action to accept the report, continue the college on Probation, and require that the college complete a Progress Report by April 1, 2008. That report will be followed by a visit of Commission representatives.

The Progress Report of April 1, 2008 should demonstrate the institution's resolution of the recommendations below:

Recommendation 1 (2005): The team recommends that the college develop and implement a means of systematic, collaborative, and evidence-driven Program Review for all instruction, student services, and institutional support areas. In order to assure maximum effectiveness, such reviews should be conducted on a regular cycle that links the findings to the annual planning process for all programs and services.

Recommendation 5 (2005): The team recommends that the district improve its planning processes to include: the development of a long-range educational plan; the development of a facilities master plan; and the development of an information technology plan. It is further recommended that the district develop a long-range financial planning process to provide early notice of structural imbalances between revenue and expenditures; to identify resources needed to adequately support changes in technology systems, facilities, and enhancement to student support systems; and to regulate the pace of changes consistent with available funds.

Recommendation 7 (2005): The team recommends that the college improve its capacity for collaborative and data-driven decision-making. Such decision-making should incorporate broad-based participation, use of qualitative and quantitative data, and establish appropriate measures of effectiveness.

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I also 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. While all of the above recommendations identified as deficiencies were also noted by the year 2005 evaluation team, the Commission has extended College of the Redwood's time to correct these deficiencies for good cause. College of the Redwoods has accomplished significant and meaningful work toward resolution, has sought outside assistance, and is very near to completing the work.

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 copies in the college library can accomplish this. The Progress Report will become part of the accreditation history of the college and should be used in preparing for the next comprehensive evaluation.

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, Ph.D.

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President

BAB/tl

cc: Dr. Keith Snow-Flamer, Accreditation Liaison Officer Board President, College of the Redwoods Dr. Steven Kinsella, Team Chair Evaluation Team Members

Ms. Linda Henderson, U.S. DOE