



**ACCREDITING
COMMISSION
for COMMUNITY and
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

10 COMMERCIAL BOULEVARD
SUITE 204
NOVATO, CA 94949
TELEPHONE: (415) 506-0234
FAX: (415) 506-0238
E-MAIL: accjc@accjc.org
www.accjc.org

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June 30, 2008

Dr. Phoebe Helm
Interim Superintendent/President
Hartnell College
411 Central Avenue
Salinas, CA 93901

Dear President Helm:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting on June 4-6, 2008, reviewed the Progress Report submitted by the College and the report of the evaluation team which visited on Tuesday, April 29-Wednesday, April 30, 2008. The Commission took action to accept the report, remove the College from Warning, reaffirm accreditation, and require that the College complete a Report by **March 1, 2009**. That Report will be followed by a visit of Commission representatives.

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 including possible termination of accreditation. Hartnell College must correct the deficiencies noted by the Commission's meeting in **June, 2009**. Hartnell College has only partially completed the work to full resolve Recommendations 2, 3 and 4. The Report of March 1, 2009 must demonstrate the institution's resolution of the recommendations below:

Recommendation 2: The team recommends that College constituencies agree upon and implement an ongoing, systematic, integrated process for program review, planning, budgeting and hiring, and that a means be developed to communicate decisions made in those arenas back to the campus at large. (Standards I.B.3; I.B.5; III.A.6; III.B.2.b; III.C.2; III.D.1.a; III.D.2; III.D.2.b)

Recommendation 3: The team recommends that a planning process be completed that will address the needs for staffing and maintenance in new buildings and for technology support in both new and existing buildings. (Standards I.B.3; I.B.4; I.B.6; III.A.2; III.A.6; III.B.1.a; III.B.1.b; III.B.2; III.2.a; III.B.2.b; III.C.1.c; III.C.2)

Recommendation 4: The team recommends that the College engages in a broad-based dialogue that leads to:

- The identification of Student Learning Outcomes at the course and program levels; and
- Regular assessment of student progress toward achievement of these outcomes. (Standards II.A.1.c; II.A.2.a; II.A.2.b; II.A.2.e; II.A.2.f; II.A.2.g; II.A.2.h; II.A.2.i; II.A.3)

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In addition, the Commission requires that Hartnell College address the following:

Commission Concern 2: The Commission asks Hartnell College to demonstrate that it meets Eligibility Requirement 10 which requires the institution “defines and publishes for each program the program’s expected student learning and achievement outcomes. Through regular and systematic assessment, it demonstrates that students who complete programs, no matter where or how they are offered, achieve these outcomes.”

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 the educational programs and services of the institution.

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.
President

BAB/tl

cc: Board President, Hartnell CCD
Dr. Christopher McCarthy, Team Chair
Evaluation Team Members