CORRECTED LETTER

February 11, 2013

Dr. Rosa Flores Carlson
President
Porterville College
100 East College Avenue
Porterville, CA 93257

Dear President Flores Carlson:


The Commission took action to reaffirm accreditation, with a requirement that the College complete a Follow-Up Report¹ that must be submitted by October 15, 2013. The Report will be followed by a visit of Commission representatives. Reaffirmation is granted when an institution is found to substantially meet or exceed the Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards, and Commission policies, but recommendations on a number of issues should be addressed. The Report should demonstrate, and the visiting team will verify, that the institution has addressed the recommendations noted below, resolved the deficiencies, and now meets Eligibility Requirements and Accreditation Standards.

College Recommendations

College Recommendation 3: Include and analyze disaggregated data in program review
To meet Standards and improve its planning process, the College’s program review should include disaggregated indicators of success, using indirect measures such as grades, retention, and persistence along with direct assessment of course level and program level student learning outcomes. (Standards II.A.1, II.A.1.a, II.A.2, II.A.2.a, II.A.2.d, II.A.2.e, II.A.2.f, II.A.2.h, II.A.2.i, II.A.6.a, II.A.6.c)

College Recommendation 5: Conduct research to assure quality in the distance education program
In order to assure the quality of its distance education program and to meet Standards, the team recommends that the College conduct research and analysis to ensure that courses offered in a distance education mode and related student and learning support services be of comparable quality. (Standards II.A.1, II.A.1.a, II.A.1.b, II.A.2, II.A.2.d, II.A.6, II.B.1, II.C.1)
College Recommendation 7: Fully integrate human resources planning into the planning process
In order to meet the Standards related to planning for human resources, the team recommends that the College assess its future human resource needs and fully integrate the results of the assessment into its institutional planning process. Furthermore, the team recommends that the College determine its professional development needs and assess the efficacy of its professional development efforts on a regular basis. (III.A.5, III.A.5.a, III.A.5.b, III.A.6)

District Recommendations

District Recommendation 1: Review and Update Board Policies on a Periodic Basis
In order to comply with the Standards, the team recommends that the Board of Trustees establish a process to ensure that the Board’s policies and procedures are evaluated on a regular basis and revised as appropriate. (IV.B.1.e)

District Recommendation 2: Board Member Development Program
In order to comply with the Standards the team recommends that the Board of Trustees, in consultation with the Chancellor, develop and implement a development program that meets the needs of the newer board members as well as those board members who have considerable experience as a governing board member. (IV.B.1.f)

District Recommendation 3: Evaluate the Board of Trustees Self Evaluation Process
In order to comply with the Standards, the team recommends that the Board of Trustees review the elements of its Self Evaluation Process and ensure that the Standards' minimum requirements for a Self Evaluation Process which: 1) have clearly defined processes in place, 2) have processes implemented and 3) have processes published in the Board's policy manual which are included in the Self Evaluation Process. The Board's policy 2E2 prescribes additional requirements when conducting the Boards Self Evaluation. (IV.B.1.g)

District Recommendation 4: Evaluation of Role Delineation and Decision-Making Processes for Effectiveness
In order to comply with the Standards, the team recommends the District conduct an evaluation of the new decision-making processes and evaluates the effectiveness of the new processes in decision-making and in communicating the decisions to affected users. (IV.B.3.g)

Porterville College conducted an educational quality and institutional effectiveness review as part of its self evaluation. The Commission suggests that the plans for improvement of the institution, included in its self evaluation efforts, be taken into account in the continuing improvement of Porterville College.

The External Evaluation Report that was sent to the institution provides details of the team’s findings with regard to each Eligibility Requirement and Accreditation Standard and should be read carefully and used to understand the team’s findings. The recommendations contained in the Evaluation Report represent the best advice of the peer evaluation team at the time of the visit, but may not describe all that is necessary to come into compliance.
Institutions are expected to take all action necessary to comply with Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards and Commission policies. The Commission wishes to remind you that while an institution may concur or disagree with any part of the Report, Porterville College is expected to use the External Evaluation Report to improve educational programs and services and to resolve issues identified by the Commission.

I have previously sent you a copy of the External Evaluation Report. Additional copies may now be duplicated. The Commission requires that the College give the Institutional Self Evaluation Report, the External Evaluation Report, and this letter appropriate dissemination to College staff and to those who were signatories of the College Self Evaluation Report. This group should include the campus leadership, the Chancellor, and the Board of Trustees.

The Commission also requires that the College’s Institutional Self Evaluation Report, the External Evaluation Team Report, and this Commission action letter be made available to students and the public by placing a copy on the College website. Please note that in response to public interest in disclosure, the Commission now requires institutions to post accreditation information on a page no farther than one click from the institution’s home page. If you would like an electronic copy of the External Evaluation Report, please contact Commission staff.

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: Mr. Steven Schultz, Accreditation Liaison Officer
   President, Board of Trustees, Kern Community College District
   Mr. Michael Claire, President, College of San Mateo, Team Chair

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1 Institutions preparing and submitting Midterm Reports, Follow-Up Reports, and Special Reports to the Commission should review Guidelines for the Preparation of Reports to the Commission. It contains the background, requirements, and format for each type of report and presents sample cover pages and certification pages. It is available on the ACCJC website under College Reports to ACCJC at: (http://www.accjc.org/college-reports-accjc).