



**ACCREDITING
COMMISSION
for COMMUNITY and
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

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June 30, 2010

Dr. Jose Ortiz
Superintendent/President
Allan Hancock College
800 South College Drive
Santa Maria, CA 93454-6399

Dear President Ortiz:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting June 9-11, 2010, reviewed the institutional Self Study Report, the report of the evaluation team which visited Allan Hancock College Monday, March 8-Thursday, March 11, 2010 and the additional material submitted by the College. The Commission took action to reaffirm accreditation and require the College to undergo a visit by Commission representatives in conjunction with the Midterm Report on the recommendations noted below.

The College is commended for the support for and upgrades to the technology infrastructure, for providing excellent library and learning support services and student support services for students both online and in person, for an engaged campus environment with active participation from all constituent groups including students, and for its successful efforts to provide orientation and development for the Board of Trustees which has enabled the Board to function effectively.

All colleges are required to submit a Midterm Report in the third year after each comprehensive evaluation. Allan Hancock College should submit the Midterm Report by **March 15, 2013**. The Midterm Report describes resolution of any team recommendations made for improvement, includes a summary of progress on college-identified plans for improvement as expressed in the Self Study Report, and forecasts where the college expects to be by the time of the next comprehensive evaluation. The visit to be held in conjunction with the Midterm Report will examine evidence that the College has adequately addressed the following recommendations:

Recommendation #1

The team recommends to increase effectiveness that the College fully implement student learning outcome assessment at all levels, using program review and student learning outcome assessment to evaluate, plan, and make needed improvements to courses, programs, and services and linking assessment analysis to planning and resource allocation. (Standard I.B.1; II.A.1.c; II.A.2.e; II.A.2.f; II.B.4; II.C.2)

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Commission Concern: With regard to the Commission's requirement that institutions meet standards and achieve the proficiency level by fall 2012, the College is required to develop comprehensive reports to clearly demonstrate the ongoing and systematic review of student learning outcomes and the use of data on student achievement of expected learning outcomes to plan and implement improvements to courses, programs, and services. Evidence of this should be included in the upcoming Midterm Report. (Standards I.B.1, II.A.2.e, II.A.2.f, II.B.4, and II.C.2)

Recommendation #2

The team recommends that Allan Hancock College implement the newly formulated college planning process in ways that enhance links between college goals, operational and strategic planning, resource allocation, and participation in college governance. (Standard I.B.2; I.B.3; III.D.1.a; IV.A)

Recommendation #4

The team recommends that the college comply with existing board policy (BP 2110) for administrative evaluations. The team notes that administrator evaluations play a role in assuring the effectiveness of the college's decision-making, and that currently administrator evaluations are not up to date as they should be according to Board Policy 2110. (Standard III.A.1.b; IV.A.5)

Recommendation #7

The team recommends that the college (1) implement their proposed new decision-making process and (2) improve methods for campus-wide communications concerning decision-making processes, to ensure a healthy campus climate and effective participation in governance, as well as strong and effective leadership. (Standard II.C.2; IV.A.1; IV.A.2.a; IV.A.2.b; IV.B.2.c)

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 its self study efforts be used to support the continuing improvement of Allan Hancock College. The next comprehensive evaluation of the College will occur during Spring 2016.

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 report, the College is expected to use the Evaluation Team Report to improve the educational programs and services of the institution.

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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 team report and this letter dissemination to your college staff and to those who were signatories of your college Self Study Report. This group should include the campus leadership and the Board of Trustees. The Commission also requires that the Evaluation Team Report and the Self Study Report be made available to students and the public. Placing copies in the college library can accomplish this. Should you want an electronic copy of the team 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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara A. Beno".

Barbara A. Beno, Ph.D.
President

BAB/tl

cc: Ms. Nancy Meddings, Accreditation Liaison Officer
Board President, Allan Hancock Joint CCD
Dr. Joel Kinnamon, Team Chair