



**ACCREDITING
COMMISSION
for COMMUNITY and
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

*Western Association
of Schools and Colleges*

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CORRECTED LETTER

February 1, 2012

Dr. Thomas Fallo
Superintendent/President
El Camino College
16007 Crenshaw Boulevard
Torrance, CA 90506

Dear President Fallo:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting January 10-12, 2012, reviewed the Midterm Report submitted by El Camino College. The purpose of this review was to assure that the recommendations made by the 2008 comprehensive evaluation team have been addressed and resolved by the institution and that the college had also addressed the self-identified planning agendas which were included in the institutional self study. The Commission took action to require that the College complete a Follow-Up Report. That report will be followed by a visit of Commission representatives.¹

The Commission requires that the Follow-Up Report be submitted by **October 15, 2012**. The Follow-Up Report should demonstrate that the institution has addressed the recommendations noted below, resolved the deficiencies, and now meets Accreditation Standards.

Recommendation 1: As cited in previous (1990, 1996, and 2002) accreditation recommendations the college should complete the full implementation of its process for tracking planning, program review, budgeting, and evaluation process and complete the cycle to assure that all the departments and sites (including the ECC Compton Center) of the college participate in the program review process, and that the results of program review clearly link to institutional planning and the allocation of resources. (I.B.3; I.B.3; II.A.2.e; II.A.2.f; III.B.1; III.B.1.a; III.B.2.a; III.b.2.b).

¹ Institutions that will be preparing and submitting Midterm Reports, Follow-Up Reports, and Special Reports to the Commission will want to review the new publication *Guidelines for the Preparation of Reports to the Commission*. This publication 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: (www.accjc.org/college-reports-accjc).

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Recommendation 2: The College should immediately define and publish a timeline in respect to how it will develop and implement student learning outcomes at the course, program and degree levels, establish systems to assess student learning outcomes and use the results of such assessments to make improvements in the delivery of student learning, to ensure the College shall attain, by 2012, the level of Proficiency in the ACCJC Rubric for Evaluating Instructional Effectiveness—Part III: Student Learning Outcomes. The College should immediately implement processes to communicate to students expected student learning outcomes in course outlines, course syllabi, college catalog and/or other effective channels (II.A.1.a; II.A.1.c; II.A.2.a-b; II.A.2.f; II.A.6).

Recommendation 4: The College needs to assure that online courses and programs are consistent in meeting the same level of rigor as on campus programs, that all services available on campus are available online, that student learning outcomes are incorporated into these offerings and that this information is clearly communicated to students taking these courses. (II.A.1.b; II.A.2; II.A.2.a.2; II.A.6; II.A.7).

Recommendation 5. El Camino College and the ECC Compton Center need to fully integrate SLO Assessment into the faculty evaluation process. The ECC Compton Center must implement its faculty evaluations and use the results of these evaluations to encourage instructional improvements and faculty development plans (III.A.1.b; III.A.1.c).

Recommendation 6: El Camino College must develop a fiscal management plan for all sites, matched to its revenues, to assure the fiscal soundness of the institution (III.D.2.c, III.D.2.d, III.D.2.g; III.D.3).

Institutions are expected to meet Standards at all times during the six-year review cycle and to fully address recommendations made by previous teams. El Camino College is reminded that as the Compton Center is a satellite of the College, conditions at the Center that fail to meet the Commission's Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards, or Commission policies will have a direct and negative impact on El Camino College's ability to remain compliant with ACCJC expectations.

I wish to inform you that under U.S. Department of Education regulations, institutions out of compliance with Accreditation Standards or on sanction are expected to correct deficiencies within a two-year period or the Commission must take action to terminate accreditation. El Camino College is being granted additional time to correct the deficiencies for good cause and must correct the deficiencies noted in the recommendations listed above by **October 2012** or the Commission will be compelled to act.

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The Commission requires that you give the Midterm Report and this letter appropriate dissemination to your College staff and to those who were signatories of your report. This group should include campus leadership and the Board of Trustees.

The Commission also requires that the College make all reports and action letters available to students and the public by placing them on the institution's website. The Midterm Report will become part of the accreditation history of the College and should be used in preparing for the next comprehensive evaluation. Should you want an electronic copy of the report, please contact Commission staff.

Please note that the next comprehensive evaluation of El Camino College will occur in **Fall 2014**.

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 El Camino 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).

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. Jeanie Nishime, Accreditation Liaison Officer
Board President, El Camino Community College District