



**ACCREDITING
COMMISSION
for COMMUNITY and
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

*Western Association
of Schools and Colleges*

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February 1, 2012

Dr. Erlinda Martinez
President
Santa Ana College
1530 W. 17th Street
Santa Ana, CA 92706

Dear President Martinez:

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 Santa Ana College. The purpose of this review was to assure that the recommendations made by the 2008 evaluation team had been addressed by the institution and that the College had also provided an update on the self-identified plans for improvement which were included in the institutional Self Study Report.

The Commission notes that Santa Ana College reported it has sustained the changes implemented to meet the recommendations of the 2008 comprehensive evaluation team and the Follow-Up Report submitted in October 2010. These include integrating and evaluating district planning processes to ensure the budget is used as a planning tool to achieve strategic goals, reviewing the district computer-based student attendance recording system to ensure state apportionment is recorded accurately, creating written policies and regulations that establish appropriate communication processes between trustees and district employees, review district Board evaluation policy to ensure integrity and effectiveness, evaluate College planning processes to ensure the budget is used as a planning tool to achieve the College's strategic goals, prepare and maintain an updated Diversity Plan, and strengthen communication with classified employees regarding governance committee vacancies and service opportunity processes.

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 the Chancellor, 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.

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Institutions are expected to meet Accreditation Standards, Eligibility Requirements and Commission policies at all times during the six-year review cycle and to provide evidence that they have addressed and resolved all recommendations made by the previous comprehensive evaluation team. This will be confirmed at the time of the next regularly scheduled visit.

Please note that the next comprehensive evaluation of Santa Ana 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 Santa Ana 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. Raul Rodriguez, Chancellor, Rancho Santiago Community College District
Dr. Bonita Nahoum Jaros, Accreditation Liaison Officer
Board President, Rancho Santiago Community College District