



**ACCREDITING  
COMMISSION  
for COMMUNITY and  
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

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June 30, 2010

Mr. Jeff Akens  
President  
Western Career College  
7801 Folsom Blvd., Ste 210  
Sacramento, CA 95826

Dear President Akens:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at a follow-up to the June 9-11, 2010 Commission meeting, the Executive Committee reviewed approved the Midterm Report submitted by Western Career College (WCC). The purpose of this review was to assure that the recommendations made by the evaluation team had been addressed by the institution and that the College had also provided an update on the self-identified planning agendas which were included in the Self Study Report.

The Commission took action to accept the Midterm Report. Institutions are expected to meet Standards 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. The Midterm Report was extremely detailed and well organized with appendices that provided evidence of the work accomplished to address the recommendations made by the comprehensive evaluation team. The College reported that all programs and services had completed the first round of program reviews and had begun the second round in 2010. New programs and services are reviewed yearly for three years before being integrated into the College's three-year review cycle. Results are analyzed and integrated into the planning and budgeting processes. Recommendations arising from program reviews ranged from curricular changes to recommendations for equipment and infrastructure improvements. A formal evaluation of the process occurs at the end of each cycle. Student Learning Outcomes data is being gathered as part of this process, and the College's new Director of Research and Assessment has provided development to faculty and staff in data analysis and the setting of benchmarks for student achievement data. The College also reported that general education (GE) program directors have been hired for each campus; their responsibility is to provide leadership, evaluate faculty, manage tutoring services, and improve GE learning resources at each site. WCC also reported that it developed and communicated the roles and responsibilities of the newly-formed Faculty Council and the Student Advisory Committee to provide more substantive voice to these constituent groups in college governance.

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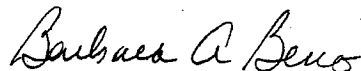
The Midterm Report will become part of the accreditation history of the College and should be used in preparing for the next comprehensive evaluation. The Commission requires that you give the report and this letter appropriate dissemination to your college staff and to those who were signatories of 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.

**Commission Concern:** 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 therefore requires that the College demonstrate in its next comprehensive evaluation report that the College has met these standards. (Standards I.B.1, II.A.2.e, II.A.2.f, II.B.4, and II.C.2)

Please note that the next comprehensive evaluation of Western Career College will occur in **Spring 2013**.

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 integrity, effectiveness, and quality.

Sincerely,



Barbara A. Beno, Ph.D.  
President

BAB/tl

cc: Ms. Holly Beernink, Accreditation Liaison Officer  
Board President, Western Career College