



**ACCREDITING
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for COMMUNITY and
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

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June 29, 2006

Dr. Kathleen "Casey" Crabill
Superintendent-President
College of the Redwoods
7351 Tompkins Hill Road
Eureka, CA 95501



Dear President Crabill:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting on June 7-9, 2006, reviewed the Progress Report submitted by College of the Redwoods and the report of the evaluation team which visited on Thursday, April 13, 2006. The purpose of this review was to assure that the recommendations made by the previous evaluation team were addressed by the institution. The Commission took action to accept the report.

The Commission also acted to continue the college on **Warning** and to ask that College of the Redwoods correct the deficiencies noted. The college is required to complete a Progress Report by **March 15, 2007**. The report will be followed by a visit by Commission representatives.

A warning is issued when the Commission finds that an institution has pursued a course of action which deviates from the Commission's eligibility criteria, standards of accreditation, or policy to an extent that raises a concern regarding the ability of the institution to meet accreditation standards. The accredited status of the institution continues during the warning period.

The Progress Report of **March 15, 2007** should focus on the institution's resolution of the recommendations below:

Recommendation 1 (2005) The team recommends that the college develop and implement a means of systematic, collaborative, and evidence-driven Program Review for all instruction, students services, and institutional support areas. In order to assure maximum effectiveness, such reviews should be conducted on a regular cycle that links the findings to annual planning processes for all programs and services (Standard IB.3, IB.4, IIC.2, IIIA.6, IIB.1, IIB.2, IIC.2, IID.1, IID.2g, and IID.3)

Recommendation 5 (2005) The team recommends that the district improve its planning processes to include: the development of a long-range educational plan; the development of a facilities master plan; and the development of an information technology plan. It is further recommended that the district develop a long-range financial planning process to provide early notice of structural imbalances between revenue and expenditures; to identify resources needed to adequately support changes in technology systems, facilities,

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and enhancement to student support systems: and to regulate the pace of changes consistent with available funds. (Standard IA.1, IA.4, IB.3, IB.4, IB.5, IB.6, IB.7; IIB.2b, IIIC.1, IIIC.1c, IIIC.2, IIID.1a, IIID.1b, IIID.1c, and III.2)

Recommendation 6 (2005) The team recommends that the college develop a financial plan that will accomplish the following goals:

- Respond to declining revenue resulting from the loss of full-time equivalent students,
- Establish a prudent and sufficient unrestricted general fund balance reserve,
- Address changes in annual expenditures to assure that such expenditures are equal to or less than available resources (Standard IIID.2c)

Recommendation 7 (2005) The team recommends that the college improve its capacity for collaborative and data-driven decision making. Such decision-making should incorporate broad-based participation, use of qualitative and quantitative data, and establish appropriate measures of effectiveness (Standard IB.3, IB.4, IB.5, IB.6; IIA.1, IIA.2., IIA2f, IIB.3, IIB.4, IIC.2; IIIA.6, IIB.1, IIB.2, IIIC.2, IIID.1, IIID.2g, IIID.3, IVA.1, IVA.2, and IVA.3).

I also wish to inform you that under U.S. Department of Education regulations, institutions on sanction are expected to correct deficiencies within a two-year period or the Commission may be required to take action to terminate accreditation.

I have previously sent you a copy of the evaluation team report. Additional copies may now be duplicated. 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.

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

Enclosure

cc: Ms. Sidney Larson, Accreditation Liaison Officer
Board President
Dr. Susan Carroll, Team Chair
Evaluation Team Members