



**ACCREDITING
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for COMMUNITY and
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

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June 30, 2009

Dr. Jeff Marsee
Superintendent/President
College of the Redwoods
7351 Tompkins Hill Road
Eureka, CA 95501

Dear President Marsee:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting June 9-11, 2009, reviewed the Follow-Up Report submitted by College of the Redwoods and the report of the evaluation team which visited Friday, April 17, 2009. The purpose of this review was to assure that the recommendations made by the evaluation team were addressed by the institution. The Commission took action to accept the report, issue a **Warning** and to ask that College of the Redwoods correct the deficiencies noted. The College is required to complete a Follow-Up Report by **October 15, 2009**. The report will be followed by a visit of 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 policies 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 Commission notes that while College of the Redwoods had appeared to make substantial progress resolving its deficiencies in the fall semester, 2008, the College appears to have slowed or reversed its direction.

The Follow-Up Report of October 15, 2009 should demonstrate the institution's resolution of the recommendations below:

Recommendation 1 (2008): The college should determine a template for student achievement data and related analyses that is to be included in all program reviews, and should use the institutional research staff and others knowledgeable about data analyses to guide the faculty and ultimately the college in discussions of what these data show about student success; these discussions should become part of the culture and practice of the institution. (Standards II.A.1.a and c, II.A.2.a, II.A.2.e)

Corrected Letter

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Recommendation 1 (2009): In order to meet the Standard and improve both communication and operations of the college, the team recommends that the college undergo a review of roles and responsibilities of each constituent group. In so doing, the college should develop means by which trust can be enhanced and respect increased among the constituent groups to create an environment that supports empowerment, innovation and leads to institutional excellence. (Standard IV.A.1. 2a, b, 3, 5)

I wish to inform you that under U.S. Department of Education regulations, institutions out of compliance with standards or on sanction are expected to correct deficiencies within a two-year period or the Commission must take action to terminate accreditation. College of the Redwoods must correct the deficiencies noted in Recommendation 1 (2008) by **January 2011** and in Recommendation 1 (2009) by **June 2011** or the Commission will be compelled to act.

The Follow-Up Report will become part of the accreditation history of the College and should be used in preparing for the next comprehensive evaluation. 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. Should you want an electronic copy of the report, please contact Commission staff.

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. Marjorie Carson, Accreditation Liaison Officer
Board President, Redwoods Community College District
Dr. Marie Smith, Team Chair
Evaluation Team Members