



**ACCREDITING
COMMISSION
for COMMUNITY and
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

*Western Association
of Schools and Colleges*

10 COMMERCIAL BOULEVARD
SUITE 204
NOVATO, CA 94949
TELEPHONE: (415) 506-0234
FAX: (415) 506-0238
E-MAIL: accjc@accjc.org
www.accjc.org

Chairperson
SHERRILL L. AMADOR
Public Member

Vice Chairperson
STEVEN KINSELLA
Administration

President
BARBARA A. BENO

Vice President
SUSAN B. CLIFFORD

Vice President
KRISTA JOHNS

Vice President
GARMAN JACK POND

Associate Vice President
JOHN NIXON

Associate Vice President
NORVAL WELLSFRY

July 3, 2013

Dr. Ronald Taylor
Superintendent/President
Merced College
3600 M Street
Merced, CA 95348

Dear President Taylor:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting June 5-7, 2013, reviewed the Follow-Up Report submitted by Merced College and the report of the evaluation team that visited April 22, 2013. The Commission took action to remove Warning and **reaffirm accreditation**.

The Commission noted that Merced College has revised its program review and integrated it with the planning process and has completed the *Integrated Planning, Program Review, and Shared Governance Handbook*, which all departments are expected to follow. Data is now pervasive in the decision-making process, and communication on campus has improved. The Board of Trustees receives training (especially for new Board members) and appears to understand its role. The human resources unit at Merced College now has a director and staff that has enabled it to develop a diversity plan and evaluate human resources' effectiveness at the College.

The Follow-Up Report submitted in March 2013 will become part of the accreditation history of the College. 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 the Follow-Up Report, the Evaluation Team Report, and this Commission action letter be made available to students and the public by placing a copy on the College website. *Please note that in response to public interest in disclosure, the Commission now requires institutions to post accreditation information on a page no farther than one click from the institution's home page.* If you would like an electronic copy of the Follow-Up Visit Report, please contact Commission staff.



Dr. Ronald Taylor
Merced College
July 3, 2013

Institutions are expected to meet Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards, and Commission policies at all times during the six-year review cycle and to provide evidence that they have addressed and resolved the recommendations made by the previous comprehensive evaluation team. Merced College is scheduled to submit its Midterm Report in **spring 2014**.¹

Merced College must demonstrate to the Commission at the time of the Midterm Report that the recently integrated planning and program review processes are ongoing and systematic by completing a minimum of one complete program review cycle before it has fully satisfied Recommendation 1.

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 educational quality.

Sincerely,



Barbara A. Beno, Ph.D.
President

BAB/tl

cc: Dr. Susan Walsh, Accreditation Liaison Officer
President, Board of Trustees
Dr. Sandra Mayo, President, Moreno Valley College, Team Chair

¹ Institutions preparing and submitting Midterm Reports, Follow-Up Reports, and Special Reports to the Commission should review *Guidelines for the Preparation of Reports to the Commission*. It 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: (<http://www.accjc.org/college-reports-accjc>).