



**ACCREDITING
COMMISSION
for COMMUNITY and
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

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June 19, 1995

Mark Perry
President
San Joaquin Valley College
8400 W. Mineral King Avenue
Visalia, CA 93291

Dear President Perry:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting of June 12-14, 1995, reviewed the institutional self study report and the report of the evaluation team which visited San Joaquin Valley College on March 28-30, 1995. I am pleased to inform you that initial accreditation has been granted.

An institution granted initial accreditation shall use the following statement in all appropriate publications. No other representations should be made.

"(Name of institution) is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, an institutional accreditation body recognized by the Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation and the U.S. Department of Education."

The recommendations contained in the evaluation team report represent the observations of the evaluation team at the time of the visit. The Commission reminds you that an institution may concur or disagree with any part of the team report, but we do expect that the report will be used to improve the educational programs and services of the institution.

All colleges are required to file a Midterm Report three years after each comprehensive evaluation visit. San Joaquin Valley College should submit the Midterm Report by November 1, 1997.

Midterm Reports indicate progress toward meeting the evaluation team's recommendations and a summary of progress on college identified concerns as expressed in the self study. Information about the Midterm Report is found in the 1990 Guide to Institutional Self Study and Reports to the Commission (pp. 19-20, revised 1991).

The Commission asks that the college submit a focused Midterm Report which addresses the five major issues which were emphasized

by the visiting team. This report will be followed by a limited visit by Commission representatives.

In a separate letter you will be receiving information which relates to the revised Eligibility Requirements adopted by the Commission at the June 1995 meeting. Among those criteria is a change in requirements regarding the governing board which must be addressed within one year. We will be providing additional information which will assist colleges in this endeavor.

I have previously sent you one copy of the evaluation team report. Additional copies may be duplicated. The Commission expects that you will give the report and this letter appropriate dissemination to your college staff and to those who were signatories of your college self study.

The College conducted a comprehensive self study as part of its evaluation. The Commission suggests that the plans for improvement of the institution included in that document be taken into account in the continuing development of San Joaquin Valley College.

The next comprehensive evaluation of the college will occur during academic year 2000-01.

Finally, let me remind you that laws governing accrediting agencies and institutional eligibility for federal student aid funding requires that accredited colleges conduct systematic assessment of educational outcomes. A further requirement is that accrediting agencies pay close attention to student loan default rates. This accrediting association has for some years published its standard on institutional effectiveness (Standard 1D). We can expect increasing governmental oversight of the performance of accrediting agencies and their member institutions.

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 yours,



John C. Petersen

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cc: Governing Board Chairperson
Holly H. Beernink, Accreditation Liaison Officer
Donald Averill, Team Chairperson
Evaluation Team Members