

ACCREDITING COMMISSION for COMMUNITY and JUNIOR COLLEGES

3402 MENDOCINO AVENUE SANTA ROSA, CA 95403 TELEPHONE: (707) 569-9177 FAX: (707) 569-9179 E-MAIL: accjc@aol.com www.wascweb.org

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Administrative Support/MIS TOM LANE June 15, 2001

Mr. 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 on June 3-5, 2001, reviewed the institutional self study report and the report of the evaluation team which visited San Joaquin Valley College on March 27-29, 2001. I am pleased to inform you that accreditation has been reaffirmed.

The Commission commends the college for its thorough attention to the recommendations of the team that visited in 1995, the attention to program quality evident in a number of institutional processes, the commitment to diversity, and the fine state of campus facilities.

The Commission is aware of recent events pertaining to the opening of college operations in Rancho Cucamonga. The college is reminded that the Commission will need to receive additional information to complete the Substantive Change process. A visit to the new location will take place within six months of initial operation at this site.

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

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 in the third year after each comprehensive evaluation. San Joaquin Valley College should submit the Midterm Report by November 1, 2003. Midterm Reports indicate progress toward meeting the evaluation team's recommendations and forecast where the college expects to be by the time of the next comprehensive evaluation.

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The college also includes a summary of progress on college-identified concerns as expressed in the self study. Information about the Midterm Report is found in the 1997 <u>Guide to Institutional Self Study and Reports to the Commission</u>.

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 2006-2007.

Finally, let me take this opportunity to remind you that federal legislation affecting accrediting agencies requires that accredited colleges conduct systematic assessment of educational outcomes (see especially Standards Three and Four). A further requirement is that accrediting agencies pay close attention to student loan default rates.

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,

David B Walf

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cc: Ms. Holly Beernink, Accreditation Liaison Officer Board President Dr. Robert Agrella, Team Chair Evaluation Team Members

PREPARATION OF THE MIDTERM REPORT

The <u>Midterm Report</u> is due on October 15 in the third year following a fall evaluation team visit. The institution is expected to provide information and analysis regarding the progress made on addressing:

- each of the recommendations of the evaluation team
- the areas identified in the planning agenda of its self study

The report will be reviewed by the Commission at its next regularly scheduled meeting and the institution will be notified as to what action it must take next. The institution is required to send **four copies** of its report to the Commission. The **Midterm Report** must be approved by the Governing Board prior to its submission.

Specific directions for Format and Content for the Midterm Report can be found in the Commission's *Guide to Institutional Self Study and Reports to the Commission*, 1997 Edition, p.38.