

June 28, 2019

Mr. Nick Gomez, President
San Joaquin Valley College
8344 W. Mineral King Avenue
Visalia, CA 93291

Dear President Gomez:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting June 5-7, 2019, reviewed the Institutional Self Evaluation Report (ISER) and evidentiary materials submitted by San Joaquin Valley College. The Commission also considered the External Evaluation Team Report (Team Report) prepared by the peer review team that conducted its onsite visit to the College March 11-14, 2019.

The purpose of this review was to determine whether the College continues to meet ACCJC's Eligibility Requirements, Commission Policies, and Accreditation Standards (hereinafter, the Standards). Upon consideration of the written information noted above, the Commission acted to **reaffirm accreditation for seven years.**

Commendations

The Commission recognizes the exemplary performance of San Joaquin Valley College in the following areas. Commendations signify practices for which the Commission believes the institution has exceeded standards.

Commendation 1: The team commends the College for its cultivation and actualization of an ethos of care, integrity, and professionalism. These qualities permeate every element of the institution, as expressed by students, faculty, and staff. (I.A.3)

Commendation 2: The team commends the College for monitoring student progress at regular intervals and implementing interventions to ensure students complete their program of study in a timely manner. (II.A.6)

Compliance Requirements: None.

Recommendations for Improving Institutional Effectiveness

The Team Report noted Recommendations 1 and 2 for improving institutional effectiveness. These recommendations do not identify current areas of deficiency in institutional practice, but consistent with its mission to foster continuous improvement through the peer review process, the Commission encourages institutions to give serious consideration to the advice contained in the peer reviewers' recommendations.

The Commission anticipates that you will bring them and the team's full report to the attention of your institution for serious consideration. In the Midterm Report, the College will include actions taken in response to the peer review team's improvement recommendations.

Modification of Improvement Recommendation

In taking its action, the Commission determined that the wording of the recommendation should be revised as follows:

Original Recommendation 2: To improve effectiveness, the team recommends that the College finalize and implement its draft schedule for regular review of Board of Governors policies and procedures. (I.B.7, I.C.5)

Revised Recommendation 2: To improve effectiveness, the team recommends that the College finalize and implement its draft schedule for regular review of policies and procedures. (I.B.7, I.C.5)

Next Steps

The Team Report provides details of the peer review team's findings. The guidance and recommendations contained in the Report represent the best advice of the peer review team at the time of the visit but may not describe all that is necessary for the college to improve. A final copy of the Team Report is attached.

The Commission requires that you disseminate the ISER, the Team Report, and this letter to those who were signatories of the ISER and that you make these documents available to all campus constituencies and the public by placing copies on the College website. Please note that in response to public interest in accreditation, the Commission requires institutions to post current accreditation information on a Web page no more than one click from the institution's home page. In keeping with ACCJC policy, the Commission action will also be posted on the ACCJC website within 30 days of the date of the Commission's action.

The next report from the College will be the Midterm Report¹ due on March 15, 2023. The institution's next comprehensive review will occur in the spring term of 2026.

On behalf of the Commission, I wish to express appreciation for the diligent work and thoughtful reflection that San Joaquin Valley College undertook to prepare for this evaluation. These efforts confirm that peer review can well serve the multiple constituencies of higher education by both ensuring and encouraging institutional quality and effectiveness.

¹ Institutions preparing and submitting Midterm Reports, Follow-up Reports, and Special Reports to the Commission should review *Guidelines for the Preparing Institutional Reports to the Commission*, found on the ACCJC website at <https://accjc.org/publications/>.

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If you have any questions about this letter or the Commission's action, please feel free to contact me as the assigned as liaison to your institution.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard Winn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Richard Winn, Ed.D.
President

RW/tl

cc: Ms. Crystal VanderTuig, Accreditation Liaison Officer

Enclosure