



**ACCREDITING
COMMISSION
for COMMUNITY and
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

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January 31, 2007

Ms. Peggy Cha
Chancellor
Kauai Community College
3-1901 Kaumualii Highway
Lihue, HI 96766

Dear Chancellor Cha:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting on January 10-12, 2007, reviewed the institutional self study report and the report of the evaluation team which visited Kauai Community College on Monday, October 23-Thursday, October 26, 2006. The Commission took action to reaffirm accreditation, with a requirement that the college complete a Focused Midterm Report.

All colleges are required to file a Midterm Report in the third year after each comprehensive evaluation. Midterm Reports indicate progress toward meeting all the evaluation team's recommendations and forecast where the college expects to be by the time of the next comprehensive evaluation. The Midterm Report also includes a summary of progress on college-identified plans for improvement as expressed in the self study report. A Focused Midterm Report is a midterm report which must give evidence of progress on recommendations selected for emphasis by the Commission.

Kauai Community College should submit the Focused Midterm Report by **October 15, 2009**. The Focused Midterm Report should address all the team's recommendations with special emphasis on the concerns as noted below:

Recommendation 2: The team recommends that

- (a). the college develop a timeline for and method of measuring its success in accomplishing its goals and quality-assurance processes
- (b). the college integrate the results of such measurement into its overall planning and decision-making processes
- (c). the college regularly incorporate the results of such measurements into the process of reviewing the mission statement. (Standards IB.2, IB.3)

Recommendation 3: The team recommends that the college develop and institutionalize an integrated, coordinated, and comprehensive set of programs and services to effectively address the unique learning needs of under-prepared students. This effort should open access to, provide an inclusive environment for, and enhance the instructional and student support for basic skills students. (Standard IIA.1a)

Ms. Peggy Cha
Kauai Community College
January 31, 2007
Page Two

Recommendation 4: The team recommends that the college continue its efforts to develop and implement college, program, and course level student learning outcomes linked to assessment strategies in both instruction and student services that are sustainable over the long term and are integrated within program review and institutional effectiveness evaluations of student learning. (Standards IB.3, IB.6, IB.7, and Standards IIA.1a, IIA.1c, IIA.2c, IIA.2f, IIB.3b, IIB.4)

Recommendation 6: The team recommends that the college establish a Kauai Community College Governance Manual. The manual would be helpful in providing detail on governance policy, duties and responsibilities of each unit, the schedule of deadlines, and flow charts that indicate chain of command and flow of information. (Standard IVA.3)

Attached is the final copy of the team report and the report of the team that visited the University of Hawaii Community Colleges System Office. Additional copies may now be duplicated. The Commission requires you to give the team report and this letter appropriate dissemination to your college staff and to those who were signatories of your college self study report. This group should include the Chancellor, campus leadership, and the Board of Trustees. The Commission also requires that the team report and the self study report be made available to students and the public. Placing copies in the college library can accomplish this. Should you want the report electronically to place on your web site or for some other purpose, please contact Commission staff.

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 while an institution may concur or disagree with any part of the team report, the college is expected to use the report to improve the educational programs and services of the institution.

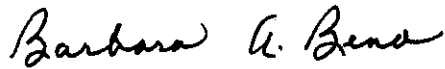
The college conducted a comprehensive self study as part of its evaluation. The Commission suggests that the plans for improvement of the institution included in that document be taken into account in the continuing development of Kauai Community College. The next comprehensive evaluation of the college will occur during Fall 2012.

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 One and Two). A further requirement is that accrediting agencies pay close attention to student loan default rates.

Ms. Peggy Cha
Kauai Community College
January 31, 2007
Page Three

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,



Barbara A. Beno, Ph.D.
President

BAB/tl

cc: Dr. John Morton, Interim Vice President for Community Colleges
Ms. Ramona Kincaid, Accreditation Liaison Officer
Mr. Michael Rota, Associate Vice President
Ms. Kitty Lagareta, Chair, Board of Regents, University of Hawaii
Dr. Patricia Hsieh, Team Chair
Evaluation Team Members

Enclosure