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July 24, 2006

Dr. Gretchen Schuette
President
Chemeketa Community College
P.O. Box 14007
Salem, OR 97309-7070

Dear President ~~Schuette~~ ^{Gretchen}:

On behalf of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, I am pleased to report that the accreditation of Chemeketa Community College has been reaffirmed on the basis of the spring 2006 comprehensive evaluation visit. Congratulations on receiving this continued recognition.

The policy of the Commission is not to grant accreditation for a definite number of years. Instead, accreditation must be reaffirmed periodically. Each institution is required to conduct a self-study and be visited by a full evaluation committee at least once every ten years, and during the fifth year, the institution is to submit an interim report and be visited by one or more Commission representatives. In the case of Chemeketa Community College, the Commission requested that the institution prepare a focused interim report and host a Commission representative in the fall of 2007 to address Recommendations 1, 2, and 3 of the spring 2006 Comprehensive Evaluation Report.

In reaffirming accreditation, the Commission determined that Recommendations 1 and 3 of the spring 2006 Comprehensive Evaluation Report are areas where the College is substantially in compliance with Commission criteria, but in need of improvement. However, in regard to Recommendation 2, the Commission determined that the institution does not meet the criteria for accreditation. According to U.S. Department of Education Regulation 34 CFR 602.20 and Commission Policy A-18, *Commission Action Regarding Institutional Compliance Within Specified Period* (enclosed), the Commission requires that Chemeketa Community College take appropriate action to ensure that Recommendation 2 is addressed and resolved within the prescribed two-year period. (A copy of the Recommendations from the spring 2006 Comprehensive Evaluation Report is enclosed for your reference).

In the unlikely event the Commission should conclude that an institution is in danger of being unable to fulfill its mission and goals or to continue to meet the eligibility requirements, standards or related policies for accreditation, the Commission reserves the right to request that the institution receive an evaluation committee for a special review.

The Commission commends the College for its commitment to serving the needs of the surrounding communities by delivering its programs in both traditional and non-traditional formats. Moreover, the Commission finds laudable the College's excellent stewardship of its buildings and grounds and its long-term facilities planning in support of its instructional priorities and the maintenance, repair, renovation, and expansion of facilities throughout the district. In addition, the Commission applauds the College's commitment to, and success with, developing partnerships in its community. Lastly, the Commission commends the College for promoting a spirit of innovation across campus and encouraging employees to be entrepreneurial and creative in better serving the community and responding to financial challenges.

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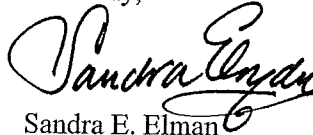
Again, congratulations on receiving this recognition. Please feel free to contact me regarding your thoughts on the comprehensive evaluation process, suggestions for improving the process and for any assistance we may provide your institution.

We will write again in spring 2007 regarding a date for the fall 2007 Focused Interim Report and visit.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Best wishes for a rewarding year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandra E. Elman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "S" and a decorative flourish at the end.

Sandra E. Elman
President

SEE:rb

Enclosures: Recommendations; Policy A-18

cc: Dr. Maureen J. McGlynn, Director, Curriculum and Instruction
Ms. JoAnne Beilke, Chairperson, Board of Education

**Comprehensive Evaluation Report
Spring 2006
Chemeketa Community College**

Recommendations

1. Planning and Effectiveness

Within the past year, the College has redesigned its strategic planning process, beginning with the adoption of a Strategic Intent statement to replace its mission statement. The committee did not find evidence of a completed cycle evaluating how well the College is accomplishing the goals embedded within the strategic intent statements and using results for continuous planning and improvement. The committee recommends the College identify indicators to determine success and to evaluate progress toward institutional goals. Further, the committee recommends that unit level planning and assessment be integrated into institution-wide planning and assessment toward the fulfillment of its strategic intent (Standard 1.B).

2. General Education Outcomes

Chemeketa Community College has identified a substantial core of general education and published general education course requirements for its degree and certificate programs. While noting the College's effort in developing general education outcomes, the committee did not find evidence that the general education learning outcomes have been finalized and criteria developed that would enable assessment or achievement of those outcomes. The committee recommends the College move quickly to identify learning outcomes for the general education component of its transfer degree programs (Standard 2.C.2; Policy 2.1).

3. Assessment

The committee found evidence that program level assessment is being conducted in many areas. However, the committee did not find evidence that all educational programs undergo assessment on a regular basis; most notable among these is general education. The committee recommends the College act on its own recommendation to assess all its educational programs and the results of those assessments be used to improve teaching and learning (Policy 2.2; Standard 2.B; Eligibility Requirement 12).