



**ACCREDITING
COMMISSION
for COMMUNITY and
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

*Western Association
of Schools and Colleges*

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February 6, 2015

Dr. Leon Richards
Chancellor
Kapi'olani Community College
4303 Diamond Head Road
Honolulu, HI 96816

Dear Chancellor Richards:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting January 7-9, 2015, reviewed the Follow-Up Report, additional materials submitted by Kapi'olani Community College, and the report of the evaluation team that visited Friday, November 7, 2014. The Report was certified by system and college leadership, including the University of Hawaii President, the University of Hawaii Vice President for Community Colleges, the College Chancellor, the Chair of the Board of Regents and Chair of the Board Committee on Community Colleges and leaders of the faculty, staff, and student organizations.

Based on the evidence in the College Report and Team Report, the Commission finds that Kapi'olani Community College has resolved 2012 Recommendations 2, 3, 4, 5, and 8, Commission Requirement, and System Recommendations 4 and 5, resolved the deficiencies, and met Eligibility Requirement 10 and Standards I.B, I.B.1, I.B.4, I.B.6, II.A.1.a, II.A.1.b, II.A.1.c, II.A.2.a, II.A.2.b, II.A.2.c, II.A.2.e, II.A.2.f, II.A.2.i, II.A.3, II.B.4, II.C.2, III.A.1.c, III.A.2, III.C, III.C.1, III.C.1.c, III.C.2, III.D, IV.A, IV.B, IV.B.1, and IV.B.1.g. The College also reported on the work it has done to sustain the changes and improvements made to address Recommendations 1, 6, 7, and 9 found by the 2013 follow-up team to have resolved deficiencies in meeting Standards.

While the College has addressed the Commission Requirement concerning Standard III.A.1.c, the Commission is concerned that implementation of and adherence to the UH Policy is inconsistent as to ensuring faculty (full-time and part-time) evaluations include the component of effectiveness in producing learning outcomes. The College should demonstrate consistent adherence to UH Policies in this regard in its Midterm Report.

Institutions are expected to meet Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards, and Commission policies at all times during the six-year review cycle. Kapi'olani Community College must demonstrate to the

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Commission at the time of the Midterm Report that the recent changes implemented to resolve deficiencies and meet Eligibility Requirements and Standards continue to be sustained, and specifically address the concerns related to III.A.1.c. Kapi'olani Community College should submit the **Midterm Report by October 15, 2015.**¹

The Follow-Up Report submitted in October 2014 will become part of the accreditation history of the College. The Commission requires that you give the Report and this letter appropriate dissemination to your College staff and to those who were signatories of your Follow-Up Report. This group should include the Vice President for Community Colleges, campus leadership, and the Board of Regents.

The Commission also requires that the Follow-Up Report and this Commission action letter be made available to students and the public by placing a copy on the College website. *Please note that in response to public interest in disclosure, the Commission now requires institutions to post accreditation information on a page no more than one click from the institution's home page.*

On behalf of the Commission, I wish to express continuing interest in the institution's educational quality and students' success. Professional self-regulation is the most effective means of assuring institutional integrity, effectiveness, and educational quality.

Sincerely,



Barbara A. Beno, Ph.D.
President

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¹ Institutions preparing and submitting Midterm Reports, Follow-Up Reports, and Special Reports to the Commission should review *Guidelines for the Preparation of Reports to the Commission*. It contains the background, requirements, and format for each type of report and presents sample cover pages and certification pages. It is available on the ACCJC website under College Reports to ACCJC at: <http://www.accjc.org/college-reports-accjc>.