



**ACCREDITING  
COMMISSION  
for COMMUNITY and  
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

*Western Association  
of Schools and Colleges*

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February 7, 2014

Ms. Jill Stearns, President  
Modesto Junior College  
435 College Avenue  
Modesto, CA 95350

Dear President Stearns:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting January 8-10, 2014, reviewed the Follow-Up Report submitted by Modesto Junior College and the report of the evaluation team that visited November 14, 2013. The Commission took action to **remove Probation** and **reaffirm accreditation**.

The College has provided evidence, and the team verified, that it has addressed College Recommendation 1, 2, 5, 6, and 7 and District Recommendation 2 and 3 and has met the Standards associated with those recommendations.

Modesto Junior College has completed significant work on the integration of the mission statement into college planning and resource allocation. The College has worked holistically to create institutional acceptance of the revised mission, mission integration, and mission specific planning. The College now meets Standards I.A, I.A.1, I.A.4, II.B.3, and Eligibility Requirement 2 (College Recommendation 1). The assessment responsibilities and coordinated data input are implemented by the College. With evidence provided through interviews and document review, the College has fully integrated its assessment, program review and planning into a resource allocation cycle with funding recently allocated to programs based on assessment and planning and meets Standards I.B.1, I.B.3, I.B.4, I.B.5, I.B.6, II.A.2.i, II.B.4, and Eligibility Requirement 10 (College Recommendation 2).

The College has strengthened and clarified the linkages in the planning and budget process to ensure institutional effectiveness. One planning cycle has been completed that demonstrated that the College adheres to its process for budget development and resource allocation incorporating student learning outcomes assessment to inform spending. The College now meets Standards I.B.4, I.B.5, I.B.6, I.B.7; II.A, II.B, III.C.2, III.D.1 (College Recommendation 5).

Ms. Jill Stearns, President  
Modesto Junior College  
February 7, 2014

The comprehensive participatory governance handbook has been adopted by all college constituents and is being evaluated and revised on a regular basis thus meeting Standards IV.A.1, IV.A.2, IV.A.2.a, IV.A.2.b, and IV.A.3 (College Recommendation 6).

The College has begun the implementation of its five-year Distance Education Plan. Evidence of this was presented in interviews and documentation.

The success of the online student services component was documented through a team member's "hands on" online counseling session during the visit. Standards IV.A.1, IV.A.2, IV.A.2.a, IV.A.2.b, IV.A.3 are now met (College Recommendation 7).

The District and Modesto Junior College have provided evidence that the mission statements of Modesto Junior College, Columbia College, and the Yosemite Community College District are now aligned as are college programs at the two colleges. This meets the expectations of Standards III.D, III.D.1 and Eligibility Requirement 17 (District Recommendation 2). The College has provided evidence, and the team verified, the existence and implementation of the revised policies regarding the delegation of authority to the chancellor and presidents. The district has addressed the recommendation and meets Standards IV.A.2.a and IV.B, 3,e (District Recommendation 3).

The Follow-Up Report submitted in October 2013 will become part of the accreditation history of the College. I have previously sent you a copy of the Follow-Up Visit Report. Additional copies may now be duplicated. The Commission requires that you give the reports and this letter appropriate dissemination to your College staff and to those who were signatories of your College Report. This group should include the Chancellor, campus leadership, and the Board of Trustees.

The Commission also requires that the Follow-Up Report, the Follow-Up Visit 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 farther than one click from the institution's home page.* If you would like an electronic copy of the Follow-Up Visit Report, please contact Commission staff.

Institutions are expected to meet Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards, and Commission policies at all times during the six-year review cycle. Colleges must demonstrate to the Commission at the time of the Midterm Report that the recent changes implemented to resolve deficiencies and meet Standards have been sustained. Modesto Junior College is scheduled to submit its Midterm Report in the **fall 2014**.<sup>1</sup>

Ms. Jill Stearns, President  
Modesto Junior College  
February 7, 2014

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara A. Beno". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'B'.

Barbara A. Beno, Ph.D.  
President

BAB/tl

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<sup>1</sup> 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>