



**ACCREDITING
COMMISSION
for COMMUNITY and
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

10 COMMERCIAL BOULEVARD
SUITE 204
NOVATO, CA 94949
TELEPHONE: (415) 506-0234
FAX: (415) 506-0238
E-MAIL: accjc@accjc.org
www.accjc.org

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June 29, 2006

Dr. Clifford M. Brock
Superintendent-President
Barstow Community College
2700 Barstow Road
Barstow, CA 92311

Dear President Brock:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting on June 7-9, 2006, reviewed the institutional self study report and the report of the evaluation team which visited Barstow Community College on Tuesday, March 21-Thursday, March 23, 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 of 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 meeting the recommendations selected for emphasis by the Commission.

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

Recommendation 1.

The college improve its planning process by taking a longer range approach to develop a solid future for the college by incorporating community data; developing strategies to acquire the resources necessary for growth, including increased staffing and additional facilities; examining strategic advantages that arise from the collaboration with the military; and advocating for additional instructional space at Fort Irwin to meet specific student services and curricular needs. (Standards IA.1, IB.4, IIA.1.b, IIIA.6, IIIB.1.a, IIIB.1.b, IIIB.2.a, IIIB.2.b, IIIC.1.a, IIIC.1.b, IIIC.1.c, IIIC.1.d, IIIC.2, IIID.1.a, IIID.1.b, IIID.1.c)

Recommendation 2.

The college develop a plan to address the future of online instruction at Barstow Community College. This plan should ensure the integration of the

assessment of student learning outcomes into the online environment, include sufficient professional development for full and part-time faculty who teach online, consider the opportunities that are presented by technological advances that go beyond text-based online platforms, and involve the financing of future development of online course support. (Standards IB.1, IB.2, IB.5, IIA.1.a, IIA.1.b, IIA.1.c, IIA.2.a, IIA.2.b, IIA.2.c, IIA.2.d, IIA.2.e, IIB.1, IIB.3.a, IIB.3.c, IIB.4, IIC.1.c, IIIA.5.a, IIIA.5.b, IIIC.1.a, IIIC.1.b, IIIC.1.c, IIID.1.a, IIID.1.b)

Recommendation 4.

The college advance its progress on student learning outcomes by implementing, at multiple levels, a comprehensive, formalized assessment plan that is grounded in a shared philosophy, involves full and part-time faculty, includes online and face-to-face instruction, fully engages student services in relevant program review, and leads to ongoing improvement of instructional programs and learning support services. (Standards IIA.2.a, IIA.2.b, IIA.2.e, IIA.2.f, IIA.5, IIB.3.a, IIB.3.c, IIB.4)

Recommendation 5.

The Board of Trustees and the leadership throughout the college exercise their authority to meet their stated commitment by implementing specific strategies that result in successful hiring of a more diverse faculty and staff. (Standards IIB.3.d, IIIA.2, IIIA.4.a, IIIA.4.b, IVB.1.a, IVB.1.b, IVB.1.e, IVB.2.a)

The Commission notes that the college's need to develop program review for student services, incorporated in recommendation number four above, was identified by the 2000 visiting team as well.

I have previously sent you a copy of the evaluation team report. 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 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 Barstow Community College. The next comprehensive evaluation of the college will occur during **Spring 2012**.

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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.

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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara A. Beno".

Barbara A. Beno, Ph.D.
President

BAB/tl

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Eva Bagg, Accreditation Liaison Officer
Board President, Barstow Community College
Dr. Kathleen "Casey" Crabill, Team Chair
Evaluation Team Members