



**ACCREDITING
COMMISSION
for COMMUNITY and
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

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January 31, 2011

Dr. Wise Allen
Interim Chancellor
Peralta Community College District
333 East Eighth Street
Oakland, California 94606

Dear Chancellor Allen:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting January 11-13, 2011, reviewed the Peralta District Follow-Up, the report of the evaluation team, the additional responses submitted to the Commission on January 4, 2011, and the presentation by district representatives at the Commission meeting. The Commission took action to defer a decision and therefore **continue** all four colleges of the Peralta Community College District on **Probation**. The Commission defers a decision on accreditation pending receipt of specified additional information as noted below.

The District is required to submit a Follow-Up Report by **March 15, 2011**. The Report will be followed by a visit by Commission representatives and should demonstrate resolution all of the remaining issues as noted in the recommendations from the November 2010 evaluation team below:

Recommendation 1: The team recommends that the 2010 Recommendation 9 be revised to include the following language: The team additionally recommends that the Board of Trustees continue to redefine the appropriate roles of the Board and its relationship to the Chancellor. The Board of Trustees should also refine and change the roles and charges of the Board Committees so that they also reflect an appropriate role for the Board

Recommendation 2: The team recommends that the district continue to monitor its progress toward meeting the issues listed in the Corrective Action Matrix. In particular, the district needs a plan to address the OPEB bond and to be evaluated on keeping to its 2010-2011 budget.

Recommendation 3: The team recommends that the Board of Trustees develop and implement a plan to review all Board policies so that the policies reflect only policy language and that the operational processes for these policies be reflected in a system of administrative regulations.

Recommendation 4: The team recommends that the district continue to address all recommendations from 2009, 2010 and the current visit (November 2010). Although the district has invested substantial effort to address all recommendations, it is incumbent on the district to ensure that these efforts continue and are institutionalized within the district.

In its reports and presentation to the Commission, the District referenced several reports and updates that are expected within the next few months. The Commission requires that the District update the Commission at the time of the March 15, 2011 Follow-Up Report on the following activities:

1. The status on the People Soft update on financial modules. The institutional Follow-Up report states on page 2 that a review of non-financial modules was conducted in January 2010 by the new Vice Chancellor of Educational Services. The CAM states that "the District is working on resolving the issues associated with the implementation of the adopted software management systems for student, human resources, and financial aid administration."
2. The status on OPEB liabilities, and according to the CAM, a report is due June 2011. The Commission also requests a copy of the consultant KNN report on the OPEB.
3. The status of the corrective action plans as related to all audit recommendations and federal awards delegated to the "new" Chancellor as referenced in the CAM.
4. The status of the new Chancellor search and the District response to sustain leadership continuity in the Chancellor position.
5. The status on the training of the Governing Board in terms of financial roles and responsibilities as delegated to the new Chancellor in the CAM.

The recommendations contained in the Evaluation Team Reports represent the observations of the evaluation teams at the time of the visit. The Commission reminds you that while you may concur or disagree with any part of the teams' reports, the colleges, the District and the Board are expected to use the report to improve educational programs and services of the college, district functioning and governance, and board oversight and to resolve deficiencies identified by the Commission.

I wish to inform you that under U.S. Department of Education regulations, institutions out of compliance with Standards or on sanction are expected to correct deficiencies within a two-year period or the Commission must take action to terminate accreditation. The Peralta Community College District must correct the deficiencies noted no later than June 2011.

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On behalf of the Commission, I wish to express continuing interest in the educational quality and success of students of the Peralta Community College District. Professional self-regulation is the most effective means of assuring integrity, effectiveness, and quality.

Sincerely,



Barbara A. Beno, Ph.D.
President

cc: Board President, Peralta Community College District
Dr. Betty Inclan, President, Berkeley City College
Dr. Jannett Jackson, Interim President, College of Alameda
Dr. Elnora Webb, President, Laney College
Dr. Robert Adams, President, Merritt College

Enclosure