



**ACCREDITING
COMMISSION
for COMMUNITY and
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

*Western Association
of Schools and Colleges*

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July 3, 2013

Dr. Victor Jaime
Superintendent/President
Imperial Valley College
P.O. Box 158
Imperial, CA 92251

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IVC
PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

Dear President Jaime:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting June 5-7, 2013, reviewed the Institutional Self Evaluation Report and the report of the External Evaluation Team that visited Imperial Valley College March 11-14, 2013.

The Commission acted to issue **Warning** and require Imperial Valley College correct the deficiencies noted. The College is required to complete a **Follow-Up Report** by **March 15, 2014**. The College must demonstrate resolution of the deficiencies noted in the 2013 Evaluation Report Recommendations 1, 7, and 8. The Report will be followed by a visit of Commission representatives.¹

Warning is issued when the Commission finds that an institution has pursued a course deviating from the Commission's Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards or Commission policies to an extent that gives concern to the Commission. The Commission may require an institution to correct its deficiencies, refrain from certain activities, or initiate certain activities. The Commission will specify the time within which the institution must resolve deficiencies, and may require additional reports and evaluation visits. During the warning period, reaffirmation is delayed, but the institution remains accredited and will be reaffirmed when the issues giving rise to the warning are fully resolved and the institution is removed from warning.

The Follow-Up Report of March 2014 should demonstrate that the institution has fully addressed the recommendations noted below, resolved the deficiencies, and now meets all Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards, and recommendations identified in the External Evaluation Team Report.

Recommendation 1: In order to fully meet the Standard, the team recommends that the College consistently link the institutional goals and objectives detailed in the Educational Master Plan with operational plan goals and resource allocations, including technology resources, in order to assess progress toward meeting institutional goals. In addition, the College should establish a planning calendar that identifies all planning activities, committees, and the roles of various College plans, and includes institutional effectiveness assessment and improvement cycles. (I.B .3, II.C.1b, IV.A.5)

Dr. Victor Jaime
Imperial Valley College
July 3, 2013

Recommendation 7: In order to meet the Standard the team recommends that faculty and others directly responsible for student progress toward achieving student learning outcomes, have as a component of their evaluation, effectiveness in producing those outcomes. (III.A.1.c)

Recommendation 8: In order to meet the Standard, the team recommends the College develop a financial strategy that will result in balanced budgets that have ongoing revenues to meet or exceed its ongoing expenditures without the use of reserves; maintain the minimum prudent reserve level; and address funding for its long term financial commitments and its retiree health benefits costs. (III.D.1.a, III.D.3.a, and III.D.4, IV.B.1.c, IV.B.2.d)

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. Imperial Valley College must correct the deficiencies noted in Recommendations 1, 7, and 8 above no later than March 15, 2015, or the Commission will be required to take adverse action.

The External Evaluation Report provides details of the team's findings with regard to each Eligibility Requirement and Accreditation Standard and should be read carefully and used to understand the team's findings. The recommendations contained in the External Evaluation Team Report represent the best advice of the peer evaluation team at the time of the visit, but may not describe all that is necessary to come into compliance.

Institutions are expected to take all actions necessary to comply with Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards and Commission policies. The Commission wishes to remind you that while an institution may concur or disagree with any part of the Report, the College is expected to use the External Evaluation Report to improve educational programs and services and to resolve issues identified by the Commission.

The College conducted an educational quality and institutional effectiveness review as part of its self evaluation. The Commission suggests that the plans for improvement of the institution included in its Self Evaluation Report be used to support the continuing improvement of Imperial Valley College.

I have previously sent a copy of the External Evaluation Report. Additional copies may now be duplicated. The Commission requires you to give the Evaluation Report and this letter dissemination to your College staff and to those who were signatories of your College Self Evaluation Report. This group should include the campus leadership and the Board of Trustees.

The Commission also requires that the Institutional Self Evaluation Report, the External Evaluation Report, and this Commission action letter be made available to students and the public by placing a copy on the College website.

Dr. Victor Jaime
Imperial Valley College
July 3, 2013

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 External Evaluation Report, please contact Commission staff.

Finally, ACCJC staff is available to assist the College with consultation and advice on the recommendations identified above. Please do not hesitate to contact us.

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 integrity, effectiveness and educational quality.

Sincerely,



Barbara A. Beno, Ph.D.
President

BAB/tl

cc: Ms. Kathleen Berry, Accreditation Liaison Officer
President, Board of Trustees
Dr. Susan B. Clifford, Vice President ACCJC, Team Chair

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. The Guidelines contain the background, requirements, and format for each type of report and presents sample cover pages and certification pages. The Guidelines are available on the ACCJC website under College Reports to ACCJC at: (<http://www.accjc.org/college-reports-accjc>).