January 31, 2011

Mr. Robert Garber  
Interim President  
Cuyamaca College  
900 Rancho San Diego Parkway  
El Cajon, CA 92019

Dear President Garber:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting January 11-13, 2011, reviewed the Focused Midterm Report submitted by Cuyamaca College. The purpose of this review was to assure that the recommendations made by the evaluation team had been resolved by the institution and that the College had also addressed the self-identified plans for improvement which were included in the institutional self study. The Commission notes that the College has resolved Recommendations 1 and 5, as identified in the Commission’s action letter of January 29, 2010.

Institutions are expected to meet Standards at all times during the six-year review cycle and to provide evidence that they have addressed and resolved all recommendations made by the previous comprehensive evaluation team. This will be confirmed at the time of the next regularly scheduled visit. In the report submitted by Cuyamaca College, evidence of the following initiatives related to the College’s compliance with the Standards was provided.

- The establishment of an institutional framework for defining SLOs for all courses, programs, certificates, and degree
- The completion of the program review process for student services, instruction and the library
- Continuous efforts regarding the improvement of the adequacy of the number of full-time faculty a support the instructional needs and student support services
- Activities regarding the improvement of the communication with classified staff in order to increase their participation in planning and decision-making
- Strategies for the improvement of dialogue among the various entities in the district
The Focused Midterm Report will become part of the accreditation history of the College and should be used in preparing for the next comprehensive evaluation. 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 college report. This group should include the Chancellor, campus leadership, and the Board of Trustees. The Commission also requires that all reports be made available to students and the public. Placing copies in the college library can accomplish this.

Commission Reminder: The Commission expects that institutions meet standards that require the identification and assessment of student learning outcomes, and the use of assessment data to plan and implement improvements to educational quality, by fall 2012. The Commission reminds Cuyamaca College that it must be prepared to demonstrate that it meets these standards by fall 2012 (Standards I.B.1, II.A.2.e, II.A.2.f, II.B.4, and II.C.2).

Please note that the next comprehensive evaluation of Cuyamaca College will occur in Fall 2013.

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 quality.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Barbara A. Beno, Ph.D.
President

BAB/tl

cc: Dr. Cindy Miles, Chancellor, Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District
    Dr. Robin L. Steinback, Accreditation Liaison Officer
    Board President, Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District