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for COMMUNITY and
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

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June 29, 2007

REVISED LETTER

Mr. Robert Garber
President
Los Angeles Pierce College
6201 Winnetka Avenue
Woodland Hills, CA 91371

Dear President Garber:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting on June 6-8, 2007, reviewed the institutional self study report and the report of the evaluation team which visited Los Angeles Pierce College on Monday, March 19-Thursday, March 22, 2007. The Commission took action to reaffirm accreditation, with a requirement that the college complete a Progress Report. The Commission also requires the College to submit a Focused Midterm Report.

The Commission asks that a Progress Report be submitted by **March 15, 2008**. The Progress Report should describe the institution's resolution of the recommendations and Commission concerns as noted below:

Recommendation 5: The District should provide leadership in supporting the progress toward incorporating and achieving stated SLOs as a component of faculty evaluation. (Standard III.A.1.c)

Recommendation 6: The College, in concert with the District, should develop a comprehensive long-term plan for addressing the backlog of deferred maintenance projects which, if left unattended, may compromise the quality of the student learning environment. (Standards III.B.1a, III.B.1b)

Recommendation 9: The Board of Trustees should complete the self-evaluation process by discussing and developing a set of Board goals to respond to any issues identified in its self-evaluation. The Board should institutionalize the goal-setting and measuring of accomplishments as part of the self-evaluation process. (Standard IV.B.1.g)

Recommendation 10: Although in practice the evaluation of the college presidents and district chancellor occurs on a regular basis and is an inclusive process, the team recommends that the District develop a written policy that clearly defines the evaluation process. (Standard IV.B.1.j)

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It will not be necessary for Los Angeles Pierce College to report on Commission Concern 1 as mentioned in the original action letter. That concern, centering on the need to provide the Commission and the visiting teams with a detailed functional map, has been satisfied. The map was sent to the Commission office on July 6, 2007 and was apparently shown to the visiting teams at the time of the evaluation visit.

Commission Concern 2. The College will need to undergo a site visit of its recently approved Program for Accelerated College Education (PACE) at two off-campus sites: Beaudry-Shatto and Kennedy High School as mandated by federal guidelines which require such a visit within six-months after program implementation. This visit will be scheduled for **September, 2007**.

Los Angeles Pierce College is also required to submit a Focused Midterm Report by **March 15, 2010**. The Focused Midterm Report should address all the team's recommendations with special emphasis on the recommendations below:

Recommendation 3: Faculty development programs in instructional technology need to be offered in order to enable faculty to expand the Distance Education course offerings. (Standard IIA.2.d)

Recommendation 7: The College should build on the current technology proposal with input from all constituencies to develop a technology plan to articulate institutional priorities in addressing technology needs. A primary focus should be expanding the distance education (DE) program, improving student learning outcomes, and providing technical support for faculty and students. (Standard III.C.1.a)

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. All team recommendations are expected to be **fully** addressed by the time of the institution's next comprehensive evaluation visit; some have been singled out for earlier resolution.

All colleges are required to file a Midterm Report in the third year after each comprehensive evaluation. Los Angeles Pierce College should submit its Focused Midterm Report by **March 15, 2010**. Midterm Reports indicate progress toward meeting the evaluation team's recommendations. The report also includes a summary of progress on college-identified plans for improvement as expressed in the self study. Recommendations singled out for "focus" are expected to be substantially addressed by the time of the Focused Midterm Report.

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 Chancellor, campus leadership, and the Board of Trustees.

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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.

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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.

All colleges are required to file a Midterm Report in the third year after each comprehensive evaluation. Midterm Reports indicate progress toward meeting all the evaluation team's recommendations. 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 progress on recommendations selected for emphasis by the Commission.

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 Los Angeles Pierce College. The next comprehensive evaluation of the college will occur during **Spring 2013**.

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.

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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,



Barbara A. Beno, Ph.D.
President

BAB/tl

cc: Mr. Rocky Young, Chancellor, Los Angeles Community College District
Mr. Nabil Abu-Ghazaleh, Accreditation Liaison Officer
Board President, Los Angeles Community College District
Dr. Terrence Burgess, Team Chair
Evaluation Team Members