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June 8, 2012

Accrediting Commission of the Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC)

Re: June 8, 2012, Presentation to the ACCJC

Dear ACCJC Commissioners:

On behalf of the students, faculty, staff, administration and Board of Trustees of the MiraCosta Community College District, it is my pleasure to provide an update of our efforts and progress to address the standards and recommendations that were detailed in the Follow-Up Visit Report from the April 9, 2012, accreditation team visit.

The goal of this update is not to reiterate the contents of the Follow-Up Visit Report, but rather to demonstrate to the Commission MiraCosta College's continued commitment to systematize and institutionalize the positive changes that we have made that are now embedded into our institutional practice.

Before identifying the recent accomplishments that have taken place since the April 9 visit, MiraCosta College would like to extend our appreciation regarding the work of the ACCJC visiting team, Dr. Jan Muto and Dr. Dennis Gervin, and to the support team at the Commission. Your collective diligence and professionalism throughout this process has been exemplary and is much appreciated. The visiting team's evaluation report accurately and fully describes the efforts of our institution and captures the growth and maturity that our college has experienced and, as a result, we are a stronger institution.

The College utilized the concept of an accreditation scorecard to provide a summary of the progress of the institution noting where we started in 2010, where we were a year ago in 2011, and where we were this past March 2012. We present to you today the scorecard with an added column setting forth the work on the recommendations between April and June 2012. While the time between the visit and today is short in terms of months, the work that we have done during this period reflects our sustained and continuous efforts to meet our commitment of quality assurance to the community and to the ACCJC, and our institutional promise to continuously improve.

College Response to Recommendation 1

As the scorecard indicates, the College has closed another cycle of program review under the integrated planning model and has reported progress on the strategic planning objectives to the key constituent groups at the College. The access and use of data both at the programmatic and institutional levels has been augmented and the method of data extraction is being systematized for easy retrieval. Research agendas for the 2012-2013 academic year are being completed for all

easy retrieval. Research agendas for the 2012-2013 academic year are being completed for all divisions of the college: instructional; student services; business and administrative services; and the president's office.

Importantly, the College has begun, through the work of the Institutional Planning, Research and Grants (IPRG) office, to step outside of the actual processes to conduct meta-evaluative reviews of both our program review and planning processes. This procedure will allow us to not only measure progress on the college's institutional goals, but also improve *how* we plan.

As part of this self-reflection, the College has appointed the IPRG Dean to be the administrative co-chair of the Institutional Program Review Committee to strengthen the bridge between program review and planning. Finally, the IPRG Dean has formally assumed the role of the ALO and has already begun work with a constituent team to prepare for the ACCJC midterm report due next spring.

College Response to Recommendation 2

The College continues build upon the measurable progress in outcomes assessment at all learning levels and in all areas of operations. The Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Committee (SLOAC) meets regularly with departments to review program level outcomes assessment methods and results.

Now that outcomes processes are maturing at the College, service area outcomes in student services division are being integrated with course and program level outcomes to better tie the measurement of learning in both the classroom and in the support areas. The College SLO handbook is being revised and institutional-level assessment methods are now being coordinated with program and course outcomes for full implementation this fall.

College Response to Recommendation 3

The College made great strides to meet this recommendation and demonstrated this work to the visiting team. Since that time, the analysis of participation in SLO development and assessment has progressed. Over the past two months, the processes have become regular and part of our annual review.

College Response to Recommendation 4

As with Recommendation 3, the College fully developed its method to assess the effectiveness of the new governance structure and the work has focused on using the system now in place to evaluate effectiveness and uses these results as a basis for improvement.

In conclusion, the College has made a committed, diligent effort to meet the Commission's expectations, described and validated in the Follow-Up Visit report, as well as in the supporting evidence. Our representation of continued progress today verifies the conclusions and findings in their evaluation report by the accreditation visiting team. Thank you for your time today and opportunity to supplement the work already completed.

Respectfully submitted,



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Superintendent/President