

June 13, 2018

Dr. Kevin Trutna, Superintendent/President
Feather River College
570 Golden Eagle Avenue
Quincy, CA 95971

Dear President Trutna:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting June 6-8, 2018, reviewed the Institutional Self Evaluation Report (ISER) and evidentiary materials submitted by Feather River College. The Commission also considered the External Evaluation Team Report (Team Report) prepared by the peer review team that conducted its onsite visit to the College March 12-15, 2018. The Commission considered the written response to the evaluation team report that you submitted prior to the Commission meeting. The Commission found these additional perspectives to be helpful.

The purpose of this review was to determine whether the College continues to meet ACCJC's Eligibility Requirements, Commission Policies, and Accreditation Standards (hereinafter, the Standards). Upon consideration of the written and oral information noted above, the Commission acted to **Reaffirm Accreditation for seven years.**

Commendations

The Commission recognizes the exemplary performance of Feather River College in the following areas. Commendations signify practices for which the Commission believes the institution has exceeded standards.

Commendation 1

The team commends the College for bringing its mission to life by incorporating the natural environment into its educational activities and sustainability efforts, which promotes a family-like community that engages students and enriches their academic programs. (Standard I.A.1)

Commendation 2

The team commends the College for its social justice work that serves disproportionately impacted incarcerated students. The faculty and administrators collaborate in creative ways for the development of innovative pedagogy that has resulted in a significant increase in student success rates in a challenging and constrained environment. (Standard I.B.6)

Commendation 3

The team commends the College for engaging students in college life through creative Student Services efforts. The College maximizes its advising functions by collaborating across departments in order to orient and engage students in the life of the college, culminating in a familial atmosphere that fosters inclusion. (Standard II.C.5)

Commendation 4

The Professional Development Committee and the Diversity Committee have worked to exceed the standard by providing practical and inspirational professional development opportunities based on campus-wide and department-level need resulting in a culture of openness and inclusivity by sponsoring many events that raise awareness of different cultures and walks of life. (Standard III.A.14)

Compliance Requirements

None.

Modifications to Recommendations

In taking its action, the Commission modified the team's recommendation(s) as follows:

The Commission determined that the wording of **Recommendation 1** should be revised as follows:

Original Recommendation 1 (Improvement): In order to increase effectiveness, the team recommends that the College develop a formal, systematic, and comprehensive process to do the following:

- evaluate policies and practices,
- document and communicate the evaluation results,
- use the results for improvement, and
- communicate the improvement actions taken. (I.B.7, I.B.8, I.B.9, I.C.5)

Revised Recommendation 1 (Improvement): In order to increase effectiveness, the team recommends that the College systematically document and broadly communicate evaluation results of its policies and practices and the corresponding improvement actions taken. (I.B.7, I.B.8).

The Commission also determined that **Recommendations 3, 4, and 5** be deleted from the Team Report.

Recommendations for Improving Institutional Effectiveness

The Commission noted Team Recommendations 1, 2, and 6 for improving institutional effectiveness. These recommendations do not identify current areas of deficiency in institutional practice, but consistent with its mission to foster continuous improvement through the peer review process, the Commission encourages institutions to give serious consideration to the advice contained in the peer reviewers' recommendations. The Commission anticipates that you will bring them and the team's full report to the attention of your institution for serious consideration. In the Midterm Report, the College will include actions taken in response to the peer review team's improvement recommendations.

Next Steps

The Team Report provides details of the peer review team's findings with regard to the College's work to meet Standards. The guidance and recommendations contained in the Report represent

the best advice of the peer review team at the time of the visit but may not describe all that is necessary for the college to improve. A final copy of the team report is attached.

The Commission requires that you disseminate the ISER, the Team Report, and this letter to those who were signatories of the ISER and that you make these documents available to all campus constituencies and the public by placing copies on the College website. Please note that in response to public interest in accreditation, the Commission requires institutions to post current accreditation information on a Web page no more than one click from the institution's home page. In keeping with ACCJC policy, the Commission action will also be posted on the ACCJC website within 30 days of the date of the Commission's action.

The next report from the College will be the Midterm Report¹ due on March 15, 2022. The institution's next comprehensive review will occur in the spring term of 2025.

On behalf of the Commission, I wish to express appreciation for the diligent work and thoughtful reflection that Feather River College undertook to prepare for this evaluation. These efforts confirm that peer review can well serve the multiple constituencies of higher education by both ensuring and encouraging institutional quality and effectiveness.

If you have any questions about this letter or the Commission's action, please feel free to contact me or the vice president that has been assigned as liaison to your institution.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Winn", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Richard Winn, Ed.D.
President

RW/tl

cc: Dr. Derek Lerch, Accreditation Liaison Officer

¹ Institutions preparing and submitting Midterm Reports, Follow-up Reports, and Special Reports to the Commission should review *Guidelines for the Preparing Institutional Reports to the Commission*, found on the ACCJC website at <https://accjc.org/publications/>.