January 25, 2019

Dr. David Wain Coon, Superintendent/President
College of Marin
835 College Avenue
Kentfield, CA 94904

Dear President Coon:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting January 9-11, 2019, reviewed the Follow-Up Report and related evidentiary materials submitted by College of Marin. The purpose of this review was to determine whether the College has appropriately responded to the issues as identified by the peer review team at the time of the last visit and as expressed in the Commission’s Action Letter of June 23, 2017, and whether the College has demonstrated compliance with the related Standards.

Upon consideration of the information noted above, the Commission acted to **Find compliance and reaffirm accreditation for the remainder of the cycle.** The Commission finds that College of Marin has addressed the compliance requirements Recommendations 11 and 12, corrected deficiencies, and meets Standards I.C.1, I.C.3, II.A.3, and III.A.1. The next report from the College will be the Midterm Report¹ due on March 15, 2021. The institution’s next comprehensive review will occur in the spring term of 2024.

The Commission requires the College to disseminate the Follow-Up Report and this letter within the institution, including by posting them on the College’s website.

On behalf of the Commission, I wish to express appreciation for the diligent work and thoughtful reflection that College of Marin undertook to respond to these requirements. 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,

Richard Winn, Ed.D.
President

RW/tl

cc: Dr. Christina Leimer, Accreditation Liaison Officer

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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/.
Dr. David Wain Coon  
Superintendent/President  
College of Marin  
835 College Avenue  
Kentfield, CA 94904

Dear President Coon:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting June 7-9, 2017, reviewed the Institutional Self-Evaluation Report (ISER) and evidentiary documents submitted by College of Marin, and the External Evaluation Team Report (Team Report) prepared by the evaluation team that visited March 6-9, 2017. College leadership, including the president of the governing board and the College president, certified the College’s report, which was submitted in application for reaffirmation of accreditation. The purpose of the Commission’s review was to determine whether the College continues to meet Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards, and Commission policies (hereafter called Standards).

After considering the material noted above, the Commission acted to **reaffirm accreditation for seven years** and to require a **Follow-Up Report in 18 months** on the issues identified in the team’s findings of noncompliance.1 Reaffirmation indicates that the Commission has determined that the institution is in substantial compliance with Standards. College of Marin is required to submit its Follow-Up Report by October 1, 2018. The Report should demonstrate that the College has resolved all deficiencies and meets Standards.

The Commission finds the College out of compliance with Standards: I.C.1, I.C.3, II.A.3 (Recommendation 11), and III.A.1 (Recommendation 12).

**Recommendation 11 (Compliance)**  
In order to meet the Standards, the college should take the steps necessary to ensure there is consistent identification of student learning outcomes on the course syllabi and that they correspond with the existing official course outline of record. The College should also ensure that all program level outcomes are available to students. (I.C.1, I.C.3, II.A.3)

**Recommendation 12 (Compliance)**  
In order to meet the Standard, the institution needs to employ safeguards to ensure hiring procedures are consistently followed that address serving its diverse student population. (III.A.1)

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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 found on the ACCJC website at: [http://accjc.org/college-reports-to-accjc/](http://accjc.org/college-reports-to-accjc/).
Dr. David Wain Coon  
College of Marin  
June 23, 2017

Need to Resolve Deficiencies
Standards represent practices that lead to academic quality and institutional effectiveness and sustainability. Deficiencies in institutional policies, practices, procedures, and outcomes which lead to non-compliance with any Standard will impact institutional quality and, ultimately, the educational environment and experience of students. The evaluation team has provided recommendations that give guidance for how the institution may come into compliance with Standards.

Improving Institutional Effectiveness
The Team Report noted Recommendations 1 through 9 for improving institutional effectiveness (improvement recommendations). The Commission acted to change Recommendation 10 and Recommendation 13 to recommendations to increase institutional effectiveness. These recommendations do not identify current areas of deficiency in institutional practice, but highlight areas of practice for which College attention may be needed. Consistent with its policy to foster continuous improvement through the peer-review process, the Commission expects institutions to consider the advice for improvement offered. In the Midterm Report, the College will include any actions taken in response to the evaluation team’s improvement recommendations.

Next Steps
The Team Report provides details of the team’s findings with regard to the College’s work to meet the Standards. The guidance and recommendations contained in the Team Report represent the best advice of the evaluation team at the time of the visit but may not describe all that is necessary for the College to come into compliance (or to improve).

All colleges are required to file a Midterm Report in the fourth year after each comprehensive evaluation. College of Marin will submit the Midterm Report by March 15, 2021. The Midterm Report describes resolution of any team recommendations made for improvement, includes a summary of progress on College-identified plans for improvement as expressed in the ISER, and forecasts where the College will be at the time of the next comprehensive evaluation.

A final copy of the Team Report is attached. Commission changes to the Report are noted on a separate page for inclusion with the Team Report. The College may now duplicate and post copies of the enclosed Team Report with this added page.

The Commission requires that the College give the ISER, the Team Report, and this letter appropriate dissemination to those who were signatories of the ISER and to make these documents available to all campus constituencies and the public by posting them on the College website.
Dr. David Wain Coon  
College of Marin  
June 23, 2017

Please note that in response to public interest in accreditation, the Commission requires institutions to post accreditation information on a page no more than one click from the institution’s home page.

On behalf of the Commission, I wish to express appreciation for the collaborative work that College of Marin undertook to prepare for institutional self-evaluation and to support the work of the external evaluation team. Thank you for sharing the values and the work of accreditation to ensure educational quality and to support student success. Accreditation and peer review are most effective when the College and the ACCJC work together to focus on student outcomes and continuous quality improvement in higher education.

If you should have any questions concerning this letter or the Commission action, please contact me or one of the ACCJC Vice Presidents. We would be glad to help you.

Sincerely,

Richard Winn, Ed.D.  
Interim President

RW/tl

Attachment