January 27, 2020

Dr. Nigel Cross, Principal
Salvation Army College for Officer Training at Crestmont
30840 Hawthorne Boulevard
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275

Dear Dr. Cross:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting January 15-17, 2020, reviewed the Institutional Self Evaluation Report (ISER) and evidentiary materials submitted by the College for Officer Training at Crestmont. The Commission also considered the Peer Review Team Report (Team Report) prepared by the peer review team that conducted its onsite visit to the College October 7-10, 2019.

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 information noted above, the Commission acted to Reaffirm Accreditation for seven years.

Commendations

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

**Commendation 1:** The Commission commends the College for its strong commitment to its mission, which is a lived part of the College culture and practices. (I.A.1, I.A.2, I.A.3, I.A.4)

**Commendation 2:** The Commission commends the College for a focus on attainment of learning outcomes leading to consistently high levels of student achievement. (I.B.1, I.B.3, I.B.4, I.B.5, I.B.6, I.B.7, II.A.3)

**Commendation 3** The Commission commends the College for preparing students for a life of service in the community through effective integration of fieldwork and academic preparation. (II.A.11, II.A.12)

**Commendation 4:** The Commission commends the College for its commitment to information literacy through a required course for all first-year students and its support of lifelong learning after graduation through continuing access to digital resources. (II.A.11, II.B.2)
Commendation 5: The Commission commends the College for a comprehensive approach to information technology and its use in teaching and learning. (III.A.14, III.C.1, III.C.2, III.C.4, III.C.5)

Recommendations for Compliance
None

Recommendations for Improving Institutional Effectiveness
The Team Report noted Recommendations 1, 2, and 3 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. 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. 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 Report due on October 15, 2023. The institution’s next comprehensive review will occur in the fall term of 2026.

On behalf of the Commission, I wish to express appreciation for the diligent work and thoughtful reflection that the College for Officer Training at Crestmont 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.

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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/.
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,

[Signature]

Richard Winn, Ed.D.
President

RW/tl

cc: Dr. Duncan Sutton, Accreditation Liaison Officer

Attachment