

June 15, 2023

Dr. Kindred Murillo  
Interim Superintendent/President  
Santa Barbara City College  
721 Cliff Drive  
Santa Barbara, CA 93109

Dear Dr. Murillo:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting June 7-8, 2023, reviewed the Follow-Up Report and related evidentiary materials submitted by Santa Barbara City College. The purpose of this review was to determine whether the College has addressed the deficiencies identified by the peer review team during the fall 2021 comprehensive visit and demonstrated compliance with the Standards cited in the Commission's January 27, 2022 Action Letter.

Upon consideration of the information noted above, the Commission acted to **Reaffirm Accreditation for the remainder of the cycle**. The Commission finds that Santa Barbara City College has addressed the compliance requirements, corrected deficiencies, and meets Standard III.A.5. The Commission requires that you disseminate the Follow-Up Report and this letter to all campus constituencies and the public by placing copies on the College website within seven business days of your receipt.

The next report from the College will be the Midterm Report<sup>1</sup> due on October 15, 2025. The institution's next comprehensive review will begin with Team ISER Review in the spring term of 2028 and conclude with a Focused Site Visit in the fall term of 2028.

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<sup>1</sup> Institutions preparing and submitting Midterm Reports, Follow-up Reports, Special Reports, or Teach-out plans/agreements to the Commission should review *Guidelines for Preparing Institutional Reports to the Commission*, found on the ACCJC website at <https://accjc.org/guides-and-manuals/>.

On behalf of the Commission, we wish to express appreciation for the diligent work and thoughtful reflection that Santa Barbara City College undertook to respond to these requirements. These efforts confirm that peer review can 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 Dr. Mac Powell or the vice president assigned as liaison to your institution.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Mac Powell', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mac Powell, MBA, Ph.D.  
President

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Lori Gaskin', written in a cursive style.

Lori Gaskin, Ph.D.  
Chair

cc: Ms. María Villagómez, Accreditation Liaison Officer

January 27, 2022

Dr. Kindred Murillo  
Interim Superintendent/President  
Santa Barbara City College  
721 Cliff Drive  
Santa Barbara, CA 93109

Dear Dr. Murillo:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting January 12-14, 2022, reviewed the Institutional Self-Evaluation Report (ISER) and evidentiary materials submitted by Santa Barbara City College. The Commission also considered the Peer Review Team Report (Team Report) prepared by the peer review team that conducted its site visit to the College October 12-13, 2021.

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 information noted above, the Commission acted to **Reaffirm Accreditation for 18 months and require a Follow-Up Report<sup>1</sup>, due no later than March 1, 2023.**

#### Compliance Requirements

The Commission determined that the College must demonstrate compliance with the following Standards, as identified in the requirements below. This demonstration must be addressed in the required Follow-Up Report.

**Standard III.A.5 (College Requirement 1):** In order to meet the standard, the Commission requires the College follow its written policies and procedures on evaluation of all employees, systematically and at stated intervals, to assure the effectiveness of its human resources.

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<sup>1</sup> Institutions preparing and submitting Midterm Reports, Follow-up Reports, Special Reports, or Teach-out Plans/Agreements to the Commission should review *Guidelines for Preparing Institutional Reports to the Commission*, found on the ACCJC website at <https://accjc.org/guides-and-manuals/>.

In accordance with federal regulations and the *Policy on Commission Actions on Institutions*, compliance requirements must be addressed and the institution must demonstrate that it aligns with Standards within three years, by January 2025. If the institution cannot document that it has come into compliance within the designated period, the Commission will take adverse action.

#### Recommendations for Improving Institutional Effectiveness

The Peer Review Team Report noted Recommendations 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 these recommendations and the advice contained in the Peer Review Team Report. In the Midterm Report, the College will include actions taken in response to the improvement recommendations.

#### Next Steps

The Peer Review Team Report provides details of the peer review team's findings, including areas of noteworthy practice. The guidance and recommendations contained in the Peer Review Team Report represent the best advice of the team at the time of the visit but may not describe all that is necessary for the college to come into compliance. A final copy of the Peer Review Team Report is attached.

The Commission requires that you disseminate the ISER, the Peer Review 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.

On behalf of the Commission, we wish to express appreciation for the diligent work and thoughtful reflection that Santa Barbara City College undertook to prepare for this review. These efforts confirm that peer review can serve well 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 Dr. Cindy Miles or the vice president assigned as liaison to your institution.

Sincerely,



Cindy Miles, Ph.D.



Sonya Christian, Ed.D.

cc: Dr. Z Reisz, Accreditation Liaison Officer