



**ACCREDITING
COMMISSION
for COMMUNITY and
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

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January 17, 2003

Mr. John Romo
Superintendent-President
Santa Barbara City College
721 Cliff Drive
Santa Barbara, CA 93109

Dear President Romo:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting on January 8-10, 2003, reviewed the institutional self study report and the report of the evaluation team which visited Santa Barbara City College on Tuesday October 1 to Thursday October 3, 2002. I am pleased to inform you that accreditation has been reaffirmed.

The college is commended for its efforts to build student diversity in all its forms, for its evidence-based planning and decision-making, and for the collegial and collaborative relationships that exist between faculty and administrators. The Commission wishes to express its appreciation for the experimental Self Study process that Santa Barbara City College undertook. This (second) experiment by the college has provided some valuable information and insight to the Commission on institutional effectiveness measures, particularly those cited on pages 106-109 of the Self Study. The Commission requests that the college provide an analysis of the results of these outcome measures in its Midterm Report.

I have previously sent you a copy of the evaluation team report. Additional copies may now be duplicated. The Commission requires you to give the report and this letter appropriate dissemination to your college staff and to those who were signatories of your college self study.

The recommendations contained in the evaluation team report represent the observations of the evaluation team at the time of the visit. The Commission reminds you that an institution may concur or disagree with any part of the team report, but we do expect that the report will be used to improve the educational programs and services of the institution.

All colleges are required to file a Midterm Report in the third year after each comprehensive evaluation. Santa Barbara City College should submit the Midterm Report by **October 15, 2005**. Midterm Reports indicate progress toward meeting the evaluation team's recommendations and forecast where the college expects to be by the time of the next comprehensive evaluation. The college also includes a summary of progress on college-identified concerns as expressed in the self study. Information about the Midterm Report is found in the 1997 Guide to Institutional Self Study and Reports to the Commission.

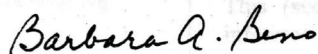
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The college conducted a comprehensive self study as part of its evaluation. The Commission suggests that the plans for improvement of the institution included in that document be taken into account in the continuing development of Santa Barbara City College. The next comprehensive evaluation of the college will occur during fall 2009.

Finally, let me take this opportunity to remind you that federal legislation affecting accrediting agencies requires that accredited colleges conduct systematic assessment of educational outcomes (see especially Standards Three and Four). A further requirement is that accrediting agencies pay close attention to student loan default rates.

On behalf of the Commission, I wish to express continuing interest in the institution's educational programs and services. Professional self-regulation is the most effective means of assuring integrity, effectiveness and quality.

Sincerely,



Barbara A. Beno, Ph.D.

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cc: Dr. Andreea Serban, Accreditation Liaison Officer
Board President
Mr. Darroch "Rocky" Young, Team Chair
Evaluation Team Members