



**ACCREDITING  
COMMISSION  
for COMMUNITY and  
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

*Western Association  
of Schools and Colleges*

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February 1, 2012

Dr. Richard Giese  
Interim Superintendent/President  
Taft College  
29 Emmons Park Drive  
Taft, CA 93268

Dear President Giese:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting January 10-12, 2012, reviewed the Follow-Up Report submitted by the College and the report of the evaluation team which visited Wednesday, November 16, 2011. The Commission took action to **remove Warning and reaffirm accreditation.**

I have previously sent you a copy of the Evaluation Team Report. Additional copies may now be duplicated. The Commission requires that you give the report and this letter appropriate dissemination to your College staff and to those who were signatories of your report. This group should include campus leadership and the Board of Trustees.

The Commission also requires that the College make all reports and action letters available to students and the public by placing them on the institution's website. The Follow-Up Report will become part of the accreditation history of the College and should be used in preparing for the next comprehensive evaluation. Should you want an electronic copy of the report, please contact Commission staff.

All colleges are required to file a Midterm Report in the third year after each comprehensive evaluation. Taft College should submit the Midterm Report by **October 15, 2012**. Midterm Reports indicate resolution of any team recommendations made for improvement, include a summary of progress on College-identified plans for improvement as expressed in the Self Study Report, and forecast where the College expects to be by the time of the next comprehensive evaluation.<sup>1</sup>

**Commission Concern:** With regard to the Commission's requirement that institutions meet standards and achieve the proficiency level by fall 2012, the college is required to develop comprehensive reports to clearly demonstrate the ongoing and systematic review of student learning outcomes and the use of data on student achievement of expected learning outcomes to plan and implement improvements to courses, programs, and services. Evidence of this should be included in the upcoming Midterm Report. (Standards I.B.1, II.A.2.e, II.A.2.f, II.B.4, and II.C.2)

<sup>1</sup> Institutions that will be preparing and submitting Midterm Reports, Follow-Up Reports, and Special Reports to the Commission will want to review the new publication *Guidelines for the Preparation of Reports to the Commission*. This publication contains the background, requirements, and format for each type of report and presents sample cover pages and certification pages. It is available on the ACCJC website under College Reports to ACCJC at: ([www.accjc.org/college-reports-accjc](http://www.accjc.org/college-reports-accjc)).

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara A. Beno".

Barbara A. Beno, Ph.D.  
President

BAB/tl

cc: Dr. Eric Berube, Accreditation Liaison Officer  
Board President, West Kern Community College District  
Mr. William Farmer, Jr., Team Chair