



8060 165th Avenue N.E., Suite 100
Redmond, WA 98052-3981
425 558 4224
Fax: 425 376 0596
www.nwccu.org

July 28, 2014

Dr. Steven L. VanAusdle
President
Walla Walla Community College
500 Tausick Way
Walla Walla, WA 99362

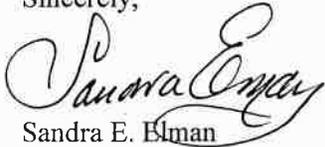
Dear President Van Ausdle: *Steve*

On behalf of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, I am pleased to inform you that at its June 25-26, 2014, meeting, the Board of Commissioners accepted Walla Walla Community College's Spring 2014 Ad Hoc Report which addressed Recommendations 1, 2, and 3 of the Fall 2012 Year Three *Resources and Capacity* Peer-Evaluation Report. The request for this report was the subject of Commission correspondence dated February 5, 2013.

In accepting the report, the Commission determined that the Commission's expectations with regard to Recommendations 1 and 2 of the Fall 2012 Year Three *Resources and Capacity* Peer-Evaluation Report have been met. However, notwithstanding the meaningful work that has begun, the Commission finds that Recommendation 3 of the Fall 2012 Year Three *Resources and Capacity* Peer-Evaluation Report does not yet meet the Commission's criteria for accreditation. According to U.S. Department of Education Regulation 34 CFR 602.20 and Commission Policy, *Commission Action Regarding Institutional Compliance Within Specified Period* (enclosed), the Commission requires that Walla Walla Community College take appropriate action to ensure that Recommendation 3 of the Fall 2012 Year Three *Resources and Capacity* Peer-Evaluation Report is addressed and resolved within the prescribed two-year period. The timeline to come into compliance has been extended for good cause until January 2016.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes for a rewarding 2014-2015 academic year.

Sincerely,

Sandra E. Elman
President

SEE:rb

Enclosures: Recommendations; Commission Policy

cc: Dr. Marleen Ramsey, Vice President of Instruction
Mr. Marty Brown, Executive Director, Washington State Board for Community and
Technical Colleges

Year Three *Resources and Capacity* Peer-Evaluation Report
Fall 2012
Walla Walla Community College
Recommendations

1. Walla Walla Community College defined mission fulfillment in the context of its purpose, characteristics, and expectations; however, the evaluation committee found no evidence that the College was guided by that definition in articulating institutional accomplishments or outcomes that represent an acceptable threshold or extent of mission fulfillment (Standard 1.A.2).
2. The College made significant progress in establishing objectives for each of its core themes and is near completion of this project. The committee recommends that the institution complete the process of identifying meaningful, assessable, and verifiable indicators of achievement to form the basis for evaluating accomplishment of the core theme objectives (Standard 1.B.2).
3. The committee recommends that for each year of operation, the College undergo an external financial audit and that the results from such audits, including findings and management letter recommendations, be considered in a timely, appropriate and comprehensive manner by the Board of Trustees (Eligibility Requirement 19, Standard 2.F.7).

Commission Action Regarding Institutional Compliance Within Specified Period Policy

If the Commission determines that an institution it accredits is not in compliance with a Commission standard for accreditation or an eligibility requirement, the Commission will immediately initiate adverse action against the institution or require the institution to take appropriate action to bring itself into compliance within a time period that shall not exceed: (1) twelve months, if the longest program offered by the institution is less than one year in length; (2) eighteen months, if the longest program offered by the institution is at least one year, but less than two years, in length; or (3) two years, if the longest program offered by the institution is at least two years in length.

The Commission may extend the period for compliance noted above should it reasonably expect that, based upon the institution's progress toward meeting the Commission's standard for accreditation or eligibility requirement, the institution will come into full compliance within a reasonable timeframe. Should an institution deem that as a result of mitigating circumstances it is not able to comply with the standard for accreditation or eligibility requirement within the specified period of time, the institution may submit a written request to the Commission for additional time to come into compliance with the standard for accreditation or eligibility requirement. The request is to be submitted prior to the time limit for corrective action set forth by the Commission, provide a detailed explanation of the reasons why the institution cannot comply with the standard for accreditation within the designated time period, and demonstrate that the institution is making good progress in meeting the standard for accreditation. Following a review of the request, the Commission will make a determination as to whether the institution has based its request on valid reasons. If the Commission determines that the institution has substantiated good cause for not complying within the specified time period and is making good progress to come into compliance, the Commission will extend the period for achieving compliance and stipulate requirements for continuing oversight of the institution's accreditation during the extension.

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