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July 20, 2012

Dr. James E. Middleton  
President  
Central Oregon Community College  
2600 NW College Way  
Bend, OR 97701

Dear President Middleton: <sup>Jim-</sup>

On behalf of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, I am pleased to report that the accreditation of Central Oregon Community College has been reaffirmed on the basis of the Spring 2012 Comprehensive Evaluation which was expanded to address Recommendation 1 of the Spring 2011 Year One *Mission and Core Themes* Peer-Evaluation Report.

In reaffirming accreditation, the Commission requests that the College expand its Spring 2013 Year One *Mission and Core Themes* Self-Evaluation Report to include an addendum to address Recommendations 1, 2, and 3 of the Spring 2012 Comprehensive Peer-Evaluation Report. A copy of the Recommendations is enclosed for your reference.

In making this request, the Commission finds that Recommendations 1, 2, and 3 of the Spring 2012 Comprehensive Peer-Evaluation Report are areas where Central Oregon Community College is substantially in compliance with Commission criteria for accreditation, but in need of improvement.

The Commission commends the Board of Directors for its high degree of engagement and support of the College, its mission, and the communities served by the institution, as well as the dedication of the faculty and staff to the mission and their commitment to student success. Moreover, the Commission commends the College for its recognition and development of extensive community partnerships as they contribute to and further the College mission. The Commission also applauds the College for its on-going commitment to the development, management, and protection of financial resources. Similarly, the Commission commends the College for having a facilities project development process which recognizes the role that facilities play in mission fulfillment and that is inclusive of the campus and the community. The Commission finds laudatory the breadth, depth, and currency of the library's information resources made available to students, faculty, and staff, in addition to its commitment to keeping up-to-date information technologies available to its users, and its work in addressing the general education outcome of "technology and information literacy." Lastly, the Commission finds noteworthy the planning and implementation of instructional programs, facilities, and institutional processes that are responsive to regional workforce development needs.

President James E. Middleton  
Page Two  
July 20, 2012

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

Best wishes for a rewarding academic year.

Sincerely,



Sandra E. Elman  
President

SEE:rb

Enclosure: Recommendations

cc: Dr. Karin Hilgersom, Vice President for Instruction  
Mr. Donald V. Reeder, Board Chair  
Ms. Camille Preus, Commissioner, Oregon Department of Community Colleges and  
Workforce Development

**Comprehensive Peer-Evaluation Report**  
**Spring 2012**  
**Central Oregon Community College**  
**Recommendations**

1. The evaluation committee recommends that the College identify learning outcomes for all transfer and applied courses, programs, and degrees, and develop a systematic method for applying the results to improve student learning (Standards 2.C.2, 2.C.11 and 4.A.3; Eligibility Requirement 22).
2. Recognizing that all institutional activities should support core themes, the committee recommends that the College recognize and document how institutional activities support the College's mission and core themes (Standard 3.B.1).
3. The committee recommends that the College articulate a more comprehensive methodology for assessing core theme fulfillment. For example, indicators might include student learning outcomes, program outcomes, national standardized tests, feedback from transfer institutions and employers, and student satisfaction, etc. (Standard 1.B).