



**ACCREDITING
COMMISSION
for COMMUNITY and
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

*Western Association
of Schools and Colleges*

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June 5, 2013

TO: ACCJC Member Institution Chief Executive Officers, Accreditation
Liaison Officers, Chancellor of the California Community Colleges

FROM: Sherrill L. Amador, Chairperson

Regional accreditation is a well-established national process for ensuring the public's investment in quality education. Accreditation is based on the core values of academic freedom and peer review. The Accrediting Commission of Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) is a regional accreditor for 134 member institutions encompassing the states of California and Hawaii and the American-affiliated Pacific Islands. Accreditation is voluntary and the member institutions commit to meet continuously the agreed upon established standards set by its members. ACCJC is one of the seven regional accreditors authorized by the United States Department of Education and recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

The ACCJC Commission consists of nineteen elected members representing faculty, administration and the public; ACCJC employs a president to carry out its policies and directives.

Dr. Barbara A. Beno has served as ACCJC's president for the past eleven years. She is a leader and professional educator with extensive knowledge of educational and institutional quality. She is an exemplary representative for the Commission and serves as its primary spokesperson on the implementation of its mission, goals, and policies as well as regional accreditation. Dr. Beno performs her duties with high standards of ethics, integrity and professionalism, which ACCJC promotes and maintains at all times.

ACCJC member institutions are assisted by Dr. Beno, through her numerous training presentations for governing boards, administrators, faculty and staff, on accreditation and the achievement of institutional quality. She continues to receive high praise for these efforts and contributions for improving educational quality throughout the region and the nation.

Dr. Beno provides relevant and current training and staff support for the ACCJC Commissioners in her non-voting role as ACCJC President. She upholds and promotes the ACCJC Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards, Policies and Practices to ensure all member institutions maintain quality education at all times to meet USDE regulations and federal laws.

All nineteen Commissioners unanimously support Dr. Barbara Beno and continue to have the utmost confidence in her leadership and dedication to quality education and regional accreditation, and to the ACCJC for which she serves.

SLA/cms

cc: Robert Achermann
Eliza Chan