

June 28, 2019

Dr. Santanu Bandyopadhyay  
President  
Columbia College  
11600 Columbia College Drive  
Sonora, CA 95370

Dear President Bandyopadhyay:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting June 5-7, 2019, reviewed the Follow-Up Report and related evidentiary materials submitted by Columbia College. The Commission also considered the External Evaluation Team Follow-Up Report prepared by the follow-up team that visited the institution on March 28, 2019. The purpose of this review was to determine whether the College has appropriately responded to the issues as identified by the peer review team at the time of the last visit and as expressed in the Commission's Action Letter of January 26, 2018, and whether the College has demonstrated compliance with the related Standards.

Upon consideration of the information noted above, the Commission acted to **find compliance and reaffirm accreditation for the remainder of the cycle**. The Commission finds that Columbia College has addressed the compliance requirements, corrected deficiencies, and meets Standards III.B.4, III.C.2, IV.C.7, and IV.C.12. The next report from the College will be the Midterm Report<sup>1</sup> due on October 15, 2021. The institution's next comprehensive review will occur in the fall term of 2024.

The Commission requires the College to disseminate the Follow-Up Report, the Team Report, and this letter within the institution, including by posting them on the College's website.

On behalf of the Commission, I wish to express appreciation for the diligent work and thoughtful reflection that Columbia College undertook to respond to these requirements. These efforts confirm that peer review can well serve the multiple constituencies of higher education by both ensuring and encouraging institutional quality and effectiveness.

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<sup>1</sup> Institutions preparing and submitting Midterm Reports, Follow-up Reports, and Special Reports to the Commission should review *Guidelines for the Preparing Institutional Reports to the Commission*, found on the ACCJC website at <https://accjc.org/publications/>.

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If you have any questions about this letter or the Commission's action, please feel free to contact me or the vice president that has been assigned as liaison to your institution.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Richard Winn", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Richard Winn, Ed.D.

President

RW/tl

cc: Mr. Henry C. Yong, Chancellor, Yosemite Community College District  
Dr. Brian Sanders, Accreditation Liaison Officer