



**ACCREDITING
COMMISSION
for COMMUNITY and
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

*Western Association
of Schools and Colleges*

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Associate Vice President
NORVAL WELLSFRY

October 18, 2011

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

Dear President Giese:

At the meeting of January 11-13, 2011, the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges took action with regard to Taft College, which included a Follow-Up Report and visit. This letter will confirm that the visit will take place Wednesday, November 16, 2011. Please send copies of the institutional Follow-Up Report to the team.

The team roster is attached. Should any member of this team represent a conflict of interest or otherwise warrant attention, please contact me promptly. The team will devote its attentions primarily to the matters that are identified in the Action Letter (attached) and to which the report is directed. You will be hearing from the team chair to discuss the visit and take care of any logistical matters that might be involved.

Upon completion of the visit, the Team Chair will prepare a short report which will be presented to the Commission at its meeting in January 10-12, 2012. Soon after the meeting the College will be informed of the action taken by the Commission. I must remind you that after the visit the College will be billed for the visit itself (direct costs plus fifteen percent for office overhead).

Thank you for all of your work in support of accreditation processes. Quality assurance, institutional effectiveness and ongoing improvement can only result with the kind of special efforts that you and Taft College are making.

Sincerely,

G. Jack Pond
Vice President

GJP/tl

cc: Dr. Eric Berube, Accreditation Liaison Officer

Enclosure: Action Letter, Team Roster



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Associate Vice President
NORVAL WELLSFRY

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.¹

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)

¹ 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).

Dr. Richard Giese
Taft College
February 1, 2012
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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

October 17, 2011

Taft College
Follow-Up Report and Visit
Wednesday, November 16, 2011

You are reminded to send the Report to each team member prior to the visit in addition to one electronic copy and three hard copies of the Follow-Up Report to the Commission office.

Mr. William Farmer, Jr. (Chair)
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