January 29, 2010

Mr. Armond Phillips
Interim Superintendent/President
Napa Valley College
2277 Napa-Vallejo Highway
Napa, CA 94558

Dear President Phillips:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting January 6-8, 2010, reviewed the institutional Self Study Report and the report of the evaluation team that visited Napa Valley College Monday, October 19-Thursday, October 22, 2009. The Commission took action to reaffirm accreditation.

The college is commended for its Program Evaluation and Planning process which is broadly used across the college and is integrated with assessments of student learning, planning, and resource allocation. The Commission notes that Napa Valley College has done excellent work in defining and assessing student learning outcomes. The Commission wishes to commend the college for its new facilities and commitment to technology planning and the college’s overall focus on quality.

All colleges are required to submit a Midterm Report in the third year after each comprehensive evaluation. Napa Valley College should submit the Midterm Report by October 15, 2012. The Midterm Report describes resolution of any team recommendations made for improvement, includes a summary of progress on college-identified plans for improvement as expressed in the Self Study Report, and forecasts where the college expects to be by the time of the next comprehensive evaluation.

The college conducted a comprehensive self study as part of its evaluation. The Commission suggests that the plans for improvement of the institution included in its self study efforts be used to support the continuing improvement of Napa Valley College. The next comprehensive evaluation of the college will occur during Fall 2015.

The recommendations contained in the Evaluation Team Report represent the observations of the evaluation team at the time of the visit. The Commission reminds you that while an institution may concur or disagree with any part of the report, the college is expected to use the Evaluation Team Report to improve the educational programs and services of the institution.
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I have previously sent you a copy of the Evaluation Team Report. Additional copies may now be duplicated. The Commission requires you to give the Evaluation Team Report and this letter dissemination to your college staff and to those who were signatories of your college Self Study Report. This group should include campus leadership and the Board of Trustees. The Commission also requires that the Evaluation Team Report and the Self Study Report be made available to students and the public. Placing copies in the college library can accomplish this. Should you want an electronic copy of the team report, please contact Commission staff.

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 integrity, effectiveness, and quality.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Barbara A. Beno, Ph.D.  
President  

BAB/tl  

cc: Ms. Judith Walter-Burke, Accreditation Liaison Officer  
    Board President, Napa Valley Community College District  
    Mr. Jerry Patton, Superintendent/President, College of the Desert, Team Chair