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January 28, 2009

Mr. Robert K. Knight  
President  
Clark College  
1800 E. McLoughlin Blvd.  
Vancouver, WA 98663

Dear President Knight:

On behalf of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, I am pleased to report that the accreditation of Clark College has been reaffirmed on the basis of the Fall 2008 Comprehensive Evaluation. Congratulations on receiving this continued recognition.

The policy of the Commission is not to grant accreditation for a definite number of years. Instead, accreditation must be reaffirmed periodically. Each institution is required to conduct a self-study and be visited by a full evaluation committee at least once every ten years, and during the fifth year, the College is to submit an interim report and be visited by one or more Commission representatives. In the case of Clark College, the Commission requests that the institution submit a progress report in spring 2009 to address Recommendation 3 of the Fall 2008 Comprehensive Evaluation Report. In addition, the Commission requests a focused interim report and visit in spring 2010 to address Recommendations 1, 2, 4, and 5 of the Fall 2008 Comprehensive Evaluation Report. A copy of the Recommendations is enclosed for your reference.

In reaffirming accreditation, the Commission finds that Recommendations 1, 4 and 5 of the Fall 2008 Comprehensive Evaluation Report are substantially in compliance with Commission criteria for accreditation, but in need of improvement. However, in regard to Recommendations 2 and 3 of the Fall 2008 Comprehensive Evaluation Report, the Commission finds that the institution does not meet Commission criteria for accreditation. According to U.S. Department of Education Regulation 34 CFR 602.20 and Commission Policy A-18, *Commission Action Regarding Institutional Compliance Within Specified Period* (enclosed) the Commission requires that Clark College take appropriate action to ensure that Recommendations 2 and 3 are addressed and resolved within the prescribed two-year period.

In the unlikely event the Commission should conclude that an institution is in danger of being unable to fulfill its mission and goals or to continue to meet the Eligibility Requirements, Standards or related Policies for accreditation, the Commission reserves the right to request that the institution receive an evaluation committee for a special review.

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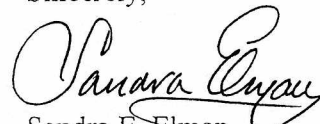
The Commission commends the College's teaching and learning center (TLC) on its mission to articulate and support learner-centered teaching and to foster a positive linkage between learning and assessment. Further, the Commission applauds the College for its generous support of professional development and renewal activities. Moreover, the Commission finds laudable the College's deliberate and creative use of its library and information resources and services to actively support teaching and learning. In addition, the Commission commends the College for its efforts to ensure that existing facilities are superbly maintained and that planning efforts show a clear focus to ensure that all facilities provide students with the best learning atmosphere possible. Lastly, the Commission finds that the College clearly benefits from the Clark College Foundation's long-term commitment to providing substantial funds to improve the educational programs at the College.

Again, congratulations on receiving this recognition.

We will write again in February regarding the Spring 2009 Progress Report.

Best wishes for a rewarding year.

Sincerely,



Sandra E. Elman  
President

SEE:mf

Enclosures: Recommendations  
Policy A-18  
Guidelines for the Preparation of Progress Reports

cc: Dr. Shanda Diehl, Associate Vice President of Planning & Effectiveness  
Ms. Sherry Parker, Board Chair  
Mr. Charles N. Earl, Director, Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges