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COMMISSION
for COMMUNITY and
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

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June 30, 2009

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Dr. Douglas Houston
Superintendent/President
Lassen Community College
P. O. Box 3000
Susanville, CA 96130

Dear President Houston:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting June 9 – 11, 2009, reviewed the Follow-Up Report submitted by Lassen Community College, the report of the evaluation team which visited Tuesday, March 31, 2009, and information presented by college representatives. The purpose of this review was to assure that the recommendations made by the evaluation team were addressed by the institution. The Commission took action to accept the report, to continue Lassen Community College on **Warning** and to ask that the College correct the deficiencies noted. The College is required to complete a Follow-Up Report by **October 15, 2009**. The report will be followed by a visit of Commission representatives.

A Warning is issued when the Commission finds that an institution has pursued a course of action which deviates from the Commission's eligibility criteria, standards of accreditation, or policy to an extent that raises a concern regarding the ability of the institution to meet accreditation standards. The accredited status of the institution continues during the warning period.

The Follow-Up Report of October 15, 2009 should demonstrate the institution's resolution of the recommendations below:

**Recommendation 1 (previous Recommendation 19 - 2002):
Institutional Planning and Decision-Making**

The college must implement and evaluate ongoing student learning outcomes and institutional planning processes, which should be based on data and research that results in a strategic plan, and incorporate all other college planning documents, such as an educational master plan, a technology plan, and a facilities plan. These processes should guide future enrollment management decisions, resource allocation, and most importantly educational programs and services for the students and the community. The processes should be evaluated, using agreed-upon criteria, on an annual basis to determine the effectiveness of the governance groups and leadership responsible for them, as well as the success of the planned outcomes and actions stated in the plans. (Standards IA.4, IB.3, 4, 5, 6, & 7, IIA.1c, IIA.2e, IIA.2f, III B.2a&2b, III C.1&2, IIID.1 – d, IIID.2 a – g, III D.3, IV A.3, IV A.5)

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Recommendation 2: (previous Recommendation #14 - 2002) Student Learning Outcomes

The team recommends that the college achieve a sustainable level of assessing student learning outcomes, which can be used for continuous quality improvement. Administrators, faculty, and staff need to continue to conduct meaningful, timely, and inclusive dialogue with all constituent groups to identify, develop, implement, and assess student-learning outcomes at the course, instructional and non-instructional programs, and degree levels and use the results of those assessments to improve student learning, services, plans, and institutional effectiveness.

(Standards IB.1, IB.4, IB.7; Standard IIA.1c, IIA.2a, IIA.2b, IIA.2e, IIA.2f, IIA.2g, IIA.2i, IIA.3, IIA.6, IIA.6a, IIB.1, IIB.3.e, IIB.4, IIC.2; Standard III; and Standard IVA.1, IVA.2b, IVB.1b)

The Commission also requires that Lassen Community College provide it with an update on the status of the financial condition at the institution, indicating budget, revenues and reserves.

I wish to inform you that under U.S. Department of Education regulations, institutions out of compliance with standards or on sanction are expected to correct deficiencies within a two-year period or the Commission must take action to terminate accreditation. Lassen Community College should have corrected the deficiencies noted by **June 2008**. The institution's time to correct the deficiencies is being extended because the College has been assigned a special trustee by the California Community College Chancellor's office who provides outside guidance. The institution has made a good deal of progress. However, the College must now correct the above referenced deficiencies identified in Recommendation 1 by January 2010 or the Commission will be compelled to act.

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. 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 College report. This group should include campus leadership and the Board of Trustees. The Commission also requires that all reports 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 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 institutional integrity, effectiveness and quality.

Sincerely,



Barbara A. Beno, Ph.D.
President

BAB/tl

cc: Ms. Susan Mouck, Accreditation Liaison Officer
Board President, Lassen Community College District
Dr. Sherrill Amador, Team Chair
Evaluation Team Members