

January 27, 2020

Dr. Jamillah Moore, President  
Cañada College  
4200 Farm Hill Boulevard  
Redwood City, CA 94061

Dear Dr. Moore:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting January 15-17, 2020, reviewed the Institutional Self Evaluation Report (ISER) and evidentiary materials submitted by Cañada College. The Commission also considered the Peer Review Team Report (Team Report) prepared by the peer review team that conducted its onsite visit to the College September 30 – October 3, 2019.

The purpose of this review was to determine whether the College continues to meet ACCJC's Eligibility Requirements, Commission Policies, and Accreditation Standards (hereinafter, the Standards). Upon consideration of the written information noted above, the Commission acted to **Reaffirm Accreditation for a period of seven years.**

#### Commendations

The Commission recognizes the exemplary performance of Cañada College in the following areas. Commendations signify practices for which the Commission believes the institution has exceeded standards.

**College Commendation 1:** The Commission commends the College for its holistic and encompassing student support services that address student and community challenges such as food insecurity, transportation issues, legal assistance, and the cost of education. The College provides significant outreach to its local community, provides information and service materials in multiple languages, and its associated student life is well integrated with College services and mission. (I.C.2, II.C.2, II.C.3, II.C.4)

**College Commendation 2:** The Commission commends the College for its integration of instruction and student services to enhance student access and success. The College has developed a culture of flexibility, dedication to equity and inclusion of all students that empowers the instruction faculty and student services to meet formally and informally to address student needs collaboratively and in a timely manner. (I.A.3, II.A.7, II.C.3, II.C.5)

**District Commendation 1:** The Commission commends the District for its significant resource support for student success initiatives through its Innovation Fund Program. (II.C.5, III.D.1)

**District Commendation 2:** The Commission commends the District for the initiation and implementation of the Promise Scholars Program, creating a broad and sustainable program to increase student access and completion. (II.C.3, III.D.1)

**District Commendation 3:** The Commission commends the District for its support and implementation of the City University of New York (CUNY) ASAP replication program. This approach provides a progressive approach in system wide support for students and invests significant resources in student success and equity. (II.C.3)

#### Compliance Recommendations

None

#### Recommendations for Improving Institutional Effectiveness

The Team Report noted Recommendation 1 for improving institutional effectiveness. This recommendation does not identify current areas of deficiency in institutional practice, but consistent with its mission to foster continuous improvement through the peer review process, the Commission encourages institutions to give serious consideration to the advice contained in the peer reviewers' recommendations. The Commission anticipates that you will bring this and the team's full report to the attention of your institution for serious consideration. In the Midterm Report, the College will include actions taken in response to the peer review team's improvement recommendations.

#### Modifications to Recommendations

In taking its action, the Commission modified the team's recommendation for improvement, as follows:

**Original Recommendation 1:** In order to improve institutional effectiveness, the team recommends that the College provide professional development to improve the program review process and student access and/or achievement. (I.B.6)

**Revised Recommendation 1:** In order to improve institutional effectiveness, the team recommends that the College works to ensure all program reviews include meaningful action plans to improve student access and success. (I.B.6)

#### Next Steps

The Team Report provides details of the peer review team's findings. The guidance and recommendations contained in the Report represent the best advice of the peer review team at the time of the visit but may not describe all that is necessary for the college to improve. A final copy of the Team Report is attached.

The Commission requires that you disseminate the ISER, the Team Report, and this letter to those who were signatories of the ISER and that you make these documents available to all campus constituencies and the public by placing copies on the College website.

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Please note that in response to public interest in accreditation, the Commission requires institutions to post current accreditation information on a Web page no more than one click from the institution's home page. In keeping with ACCJC policy, the Commission action will also be posted on the ACCJC website within 30 days of the date of the Commission's action.

The next report from the College will be the Midterm Report<sup>1</sup> due on October 15, 2023. The institution's next comprehensive review will occur in the fall term of 2026.

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

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 black ink, appearing to read "Richard Winn", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Richard Winn, Ed.D.  
President

RW/tl

cc: Mr. Michael Claire, Chancellor, San Mateo Community College District  
Dr. Karen Engel, Accreditation Liaison Officer

Attachment

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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/>.