ACCREDITING COMMISSION for COMMUNITY and JUNIOR COLLEGES

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June 30, 2011

Dr. Roland "Chip" Chapdelaine
President
Los Angeles Trade-Technical College
400 West Washington Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Dear President Chapdelaine:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting June 8-10, 2011, reviewed the Follow-Up Report submitted by the College and the report of the evaluation team which visited Thursday, March 31, 2011-Friday, April 1, 2011. The Commission took action to **remove Warning** and **reaffirm accreditation** noting that the College has resolved the deficiencies associated with Recommendations 2, 4, and 5 and is on track to meet the Proficiency level on the Rubric for Evaluating Institutional Effectiveness Part III – Student Learning Outcomes.

Commission Concern: In assessing compliance with Standard III.D Financial Resources, the Commission has a concern about whether the Los Angeles Community College District's financial resources are sufficient to support student learning programs and services and to improve institutional effectiveness. The distribution of resources supports the development, maintenance, and enhancement of programs and services. Provisions of Standard III.D requiring a level of financial resources that provide a reasonable expectation of both short-term and long-term financial solvency necessitates that the District and the College begin to act in a way that will create and implement funding plans to ensure that adequate cash or liquid resources will be available to pay for OPEB liabilities at the time those costs become due.

The Commission notes that colleges and districts not making the minimum payment or Annual Required Contribution (ARC) are now accumulating unfunded liabilities that will require cash to be paid out when benefits are paid to retired employees.

The consequence of not funding an amount that is at least equal to the ARC is that an unfunded liability will be recorded on the financial statements of the district and the colleges and the ending fund balance or reserves will decline. Eventually, unless this liability is funded the district and the colleges' financial condition will deteriorate to a level that will make it difficult for colleges to meet the requirements of Standard III.D.

The Commission requests that the College provide information about how the ARC is being handled and how funds in an amount at least equal to the ARC are being paid into an irrevocable trust fund in order to pay for liabilities as they become due (ER 17 and Standard III.D.1.b and c). This information should be provided in the Midterm Report due Spring 2012.

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 the Chancellor, campus leadership, and the Board of Trustees. The Commission also requires that all reports be made available to students and the public. Placing a copy on the college web site can accomplish this. Should you require 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. Los Angeles Trade-Technical College should submit the Midterm Report by **March 15, 2012**.

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

Barbara A. Beno, Ph.D.
President

BAB/tl

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Daniel LaVista, Chancellor, Los Angeles Community College District
Ms. Deborah Harrington, Accreditation Liaison Officer
Board President, Los Angeles Community College District
Dr. Peter Garcia, Team Chair