

June 13, 2018

Dr. Mary A.Y. Okada, President/CEO
Guam Community College
P. O. Box 23069
Guam, M.I. 96921

Dear President Okada:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting June 6-8, 2018, reviewed the Institutional Self Evaluation Report (ISER) and evidentiary materials submitted by Guam Community College. The Commission also considered the External Evaluation Team Report (Team Report) prepared by the peer review team that conducted its onsite visit to the College March 7-9, 2018.

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 seven years.**

Commendations

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

Commendation 1 – The Evaluation Team commends Guam Community College for its sustained and collegial dialog about the assessment of student learning. Assessment results have been broadly communicated through the publication of the Annual Institutional Assessment Report which has been issued for sixteen consecutive years. (I.B.1, I.B.8)

Commendation 2 – The Evaluation Team commends Guam Community College for being the only agency of the Government of Guam to be designated as low-risk for 16 consecutive years. GCC's robust fiscal planning and astute fiscal management has allowed it to maintain student tuition and fees at the same level since the fall of 2011, a key component to student access and, ultimately, student success. (III.D)

Commendation 3 – The Evaluation Team commends Guam Community College for its transformational initiatives through the President's Innovative Ideas Program and Small Assessment Grant Awards which support student learning, expand access, and improve success in college-level curriculum. This is the result of institutional leaders creating an environment that encourages innovations like Reach for College, DEAL, Chalani 365, and CLYMER. (II.A.4, II.C, IV.A.1)

Commendation 4 – The Evaluation Team commends the President for her vision and effectiveness of her leadership which has transformed and expanded the campus by

steadfastly pursuing grants and commitments for new buildings, including the first LEED Gold certified building for the Government of Guam. (IV.B)

Compliance Requirements

None.

Recommendations for Improving Institutional Effectiveness

None.

Next Steps

The guidance contained in the Report represents 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. 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 Report¹ due on March 15, 2022. The institution's next comprehensive review will occur in the spring term of 2025.

On behalf of the Commission, I wish to express appreciation for the diligent work and thoughtful reflection that Guam Community 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,



Richard Winn, Ed.D.
President

RW/tl

cc: Dr. Ray D. Somera, Accreditation Liaison Officer

¹ 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/>.