



February 3, 2020

Mr. Chris Breitmeyer  
President  
Clatsop Community College  
1651 Lexington Avenue  
Astoria, OR 97103

Dear President Breitmeyer:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) at its meeting on January 8-10, 2020, concerning the Fall 2019 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Evaluation of Clatsop Community College. This action was taken after consideration of evidence, including the institution's Self-Evaluation Report, the Peer-Evaluation Report, the optional Institutional Response to the Peer-Evaluation Report, and information received as part of the institutional representative meeting with Commissioners.

#### **Accreditation**

- Reaffirm Accreditation

#### **Status of Previous Recommendations Addressed in this Evaluation**

- Recommendation 1: Spring 2014 Year Three Review - Continued as Non-Compliant
- Recommendation 2: Spring 2014 Year Three Review - Fulfilled
- Recommendation 3: Spring 2014 Year Three Review - Fulfilled

#### **Commendations**

The Commission commends Clatsop Community College for:

1. Its culture focused on service to students. The administration is committed and supportive, the faculty is engaged inside and outside the classroom, and the classified staff goes above and beyond to ensure students are supported and feel part of the College community.
2. Building strong, effective relationships with community partners, which have enabled the College to expand learning opportunities for its students as well as to local community members.
3. Faculty engagement in the continuous improvement of structures and processes for design, approval, and implementation of curricula; for systematic assessment of course, program, degree and general education learning outcomes; and for inclusion of these assessments in academic program review and departmental planning.
4. ~~Realization~~ Completion of their Master Plan for creating and maintaining physical facilities that are accessible, safe, secure, and sufficient in quantity and quality. The College is providing healthful learning and working spaces that support the institution's mission, programs, and services.

5. The quality of instruction and support provided by the Library to students, faculty, staff, and administrators; its data-driven responses to the needs of its stakeholders; and its enthusiastic support of campus initiatives. The Library provides an exceptionally high level of service with limited financial resources and staff.

### **Recommendations Substantially in Compliance But in Need of Improvement**

The Commission recommends that Clatsop Community College:

1. Establish objectives for each of its Core Themes and identify meaningful, assessable, and verifiable indicators of achievement that form the basis for evaluating accomplishment of the objectives of its Core Themes. (2020 Standards: 1.B.2).

### **Recommendations Out of Compliance**

The Commission finds that the following Recommendations are areas where Clatsop Community College is out of compliance with the NWCCU Standards for Accreditation. According to U.S. Department of Education Regulation 34 CFR 602.20 and NWCCU Policy, [Commission Action Regarding Institutional Compliance Within Specified Period](#), the Commission requires that Clatsop Community College take appropriate action to ensure these Recommendations are addressed and resolved in the prescribed two-year period.

2019 Fall Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Evaluation:

The Commission recommends that Clatsop Community College:

2. Review and revise its institutional planning processes to ensure that data collectively support mission fulfillment and effective strategic decision-making (2020 Standards: 1.B.1, 1.B.3, 1.B.4).

2014 Spring Year Three Evaluation:

The Commission recommends that Clatsop Community College:

1. Regularly review its policies and procedures (2020 Standards: 2.F.3).

### **Future Evaluations**

- Ad Hoc Report without a visit Spring 2021
  - Recommendation 1: Spring 2014 Year Three Review
- Ad Hoc Report with a visit Spring 2021
  - Recommendation 2: Fall 2019 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability
- Mid-Cycle Review Fall 2022 with an addendum to address:
  - Recommendation 1: Fall 2019 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability
- Policies, Regulations, and Financial Review Fall 2025
- Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness Fall 2026

Clatsop Community College  
February 3, 2020  
Page Three

NWCCU is committed to an accreditation process that adds value to institutions while contributing to public accountability, and we thank you for your continued support of this process. If you have questions about any of the information in this letter, please contact your staff liaison.

Sincerely,



Sonny Ramaswamy  
President

SR:eg

cc: Dr. Margaret Frimoth, Vice President, Academic Affairs  
Dr. Thomas Keegan, President, Skagit Valley College