June 30, 2010

Dr. Dennis Harkins
President
Orange Coast College
2701 Fairview Road
Costa Mesa, CA 92628

Dear President Harkins:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting June 9-11, 2010, reviewed the Focused Midterm Report submitted by Orange Coast College and the report of the evaluation team that visited on March 25, 2010. The purpose of this review was to assure that the recommendations made by the evaluation team had been resolved by the institution and that the College had also addressed the self-identified plans for improvement which were included in the institutional self study.

The Commission took action to accept the Focused Midterm Report.

Institutions are expected to meet Standards at all times during the six-year review cycle and to provide evidence that they have address and resolved all recommendations made by the previous comprehensive evaluation team. This will be confirmed at the time of the next regularly scheduled visit.

The Focused Midterm Report will become part of the accreditation history of the College and should be used in preparing for the next comprehensive evaluation. 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 copies in the college library can accomplish this. Should you want an electronic copy of the team report, please contact the Commission staff.

Please note that the next comprehensive evaluation of Orange Coast College will occur in Spring 2013.
Commission Concern: The Commission expects that institutions meet standards that require the identification and assessment of student learning outcomes, and the use of assessment data to plan and implement improvements to educational quality, by fall 2012. The Commission therefore requires that the college demonstrate in its next comprehensive evaluation report that the college has met these standards. (Standards I.B.1, II.A.2.e, II.A.2.f, II.B.4, and II.C.2)

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/11

cc: Ding Jo Currie, Acting Chancellor, Coast Community College District
    Ms. Melinda Nish, Accreditation Liaison Officer
    Board President, Coast Community College District