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for COMMUNITY and
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

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February 3, 2009

Mr. Spensin James
President
College of Micronesia-FSM
P. O. Box 159
Kolonia Pohnpei, FSM 96941

Dear President James:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting on January 7-9, 2009, reviewed the Follow-Up Report submitted by the college. The Commission took action to reject the report and require the college to resubmit the Follow-Up Report by **March 15, 2009**. That report will be followed by a visit by Commission representatives.

It is imperative that the college precisely follow the format of a Follow-Up Report. The report should show the institution's resolution of the recommendations and the Commission Concern as noted in the Commission Action Letter of June 29, 2007 and restated below. The report should describe the resolution of each recommendation, analyze the results achieved to date, provide evidence of the results, and indicate what additional plans the institution has developed. The report should also be carefully edited to ensure its accuracy and clarity.

Recommendation #5: Identify and Assess Student Learning Outcomes

The college must develop and implement student learning outcomes across the six sites in order to determine the effectiveness of college programs and services on student learning including

- Instructional programs at course, program, degree and certificate levels (Standards IIA.1c, and IIA.2i),
- Student services throughout the students' matriculation at the college (Standards IIB, IIB.3, and IIB.4),
- Links between student learning outcomes and the planning process (Standard IB),
- Mechanisms for measuring student learning outcomes (Standard IIA.2a), and
- Mechanisms for using those measurements to improve courses, programs, and services (Standards IIA.1c, IIA.2e, and IIA.2f).

Recommendation #6: Create Continuity

The college needs to standardize instruction, student services, learning environments, and quality of instruction across the college's six sites. Specific areas that require greater continuity at this time are:

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- The delivery of comprehensive and consistent student services at each of the college's sites (Standards IIB.1, and IIB.3a), and
- The provision of adequate facilities for instruction at all sites; at this time, the college must immediately provide an adequate facility for student learning at the Chuuk site (Standards IIB.1 and IIB.1b).

All issues related to continuity at the college's sites are to be regularly evaluated to establish a cycle of improvement.

Recommendation 8 (from Focused Midterm Report) and Recommendation 2 (from June 2006 Commission Action Letter): Secure Permanent Campus for Chuuk

The college must make significant progress in securing the Chuuk High School campus as the site for COM-FSM's permanent Chuuk state campus or, if it is unable to within its deadline of 2008, find another acceptable site.

With regard to Recommendation 8 above, the Commission asks that COM-FSM provide an update on the new plans to build the Chuuk state campus on a location that had been previously declared "unbuildable."

Commission Concern 1: Communication

The college should update the Commission on all work done since the Focused Midterm Report to continue to improve communication, providing evidence of those efforts. The college should systematically evaluate the effectiveness of the measures taken in order to facilitate a cycle of continued improvement of communication.

On behalf of the Commission, I wish to express continuing interest in the institution's educational programs and services. Professional self-regulation is the most effective means of assuring integrity, effectiveness and quality.

Please note that the next comprehensive evaluation of College of Micronesia-FSM will occur during **Spring 2010**.

Sincerely,



Barbara A. Beno, Ph.D.
President

BAB/tl

cc: Mr. Joseph Saimon, Accreditation Liaison Officer
Board President, College of Micronesia