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January 22, 2019

Ms. Dana M. Young
President
Treasure Valley Community College
650 College Blvd.
Ontario, OR 97914

Dear President Young:

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 9-11, 2019, concerning the Fall 2018 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Evaluation of Treasure Valley 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.

Commendations

The Commission commends Treasure Valley Community College for:

1. Demonstrating resilience by maintaining its focus on students even while faced with enrollment declines and several years of significant budget and staffing challenges.
2. Its strong commitment to serving the community and building partnerships as evident through campus events, outreach, non-profit collaborations, and extended educational services and workforce training delivered through the Caldwell Center, the Snake River Correctional Institute, and the Center for Business, Workforce and Community Learning, among other examples. In this work, the College is actively supported by its Foundation.
3. Its meaningful and intentional integration of student voice and, in particular, the Associated Student Government in shared governance and institutional planning.

Recommendations for Areas Out of Compliance

The Commission finds that the following Recommendations are areas where Treasure Valley 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 Commission Policy, Commission Action Regarding Institutional Compliance Within Specified Period (enclosed), the Commission requires that Treasure Valley Community College take appropriate action to ensure these Recommendations are addressed and resolved in the prescribed two-year period.

The Commission recommends that Treasure Valley Community College:

1. Develop a consistent, systematic approach to mapping student learning outcomes at all levels and use the results of the assessment to improve instructional quality and learning. It is further recommended that the faculty and administration collaboratively develop a systematic and consistent approach to assessing student learning outcomes at the general education, program, and course level. Such an approach should:
 - a. train faculty in defining and assessing student learning outcomes at all levels and across all departments, and
 - b. develop consistent reporting and follow-up mechanisms that demonstrate how the results of student learning assessment inform the planning process and subsequently improve instruction and contribute to mission fulfillment (ER 11, ER 22, and Standard 2.C.1, 2.C.3, and 2.C.5).
2. Hasten its anticipated core theme revision, implement it, and use the results to guide the College's planning processes and contribute to mission fulfillment. Because the College has continued to revise its core theme objectives, indicators, metrics, and threshold of mission fulfillment over several assessment cycles — including the current year's — the College is unable at this time to determine mission fulfillment for purposes of institutional improvement (ER 23 and Standards 1.B.2, 5.A.1, 5.A.2).

Recommendations for Areas Substantially in Compliance but in Need of Improvement

The Commission recommends that Treasure Valley Community College:

3. Review and revise its institutional planning processes to ensure that, collectively, they support effective strategic decision-making, particularly in light of the environmental challenges facing the College. The College has not demonstrated that its institutional planning activities are driven by reliable and valid data, integrated with one another, consistently used to set priorities, or widely understood (ER 23, ER 24, and Standard 3.A.1, 3.A.2, 3.A.3, and 3.A.4).
4. Evaluate the sustainability of the College's current staffing models and the organizational capacity to fulfill its mission due to employee turnover and shortages (ER 9, ER 24, and Standard 5.B.1).
5. Improve transparency and dialogue, clarify the decision-making and operational roles of constituent groups, and encourage collegial, College-wide engagement of all constituencies (Standard 2.A.1, 2.A.5, 2.A.6, and 2.A.7).

Required Follow-Up

- Address Recommendations 1, 2, and 3 of the Fall 2018 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Peer-Evaluation Report in an Ad Hoc Report with a visit in Spring 2020.
- Address Recommendations 4 and 5 of the Fall 2018 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Peer-Evaluation Report as an addendum to the Fall 2021 Mid-Cycle Self-Evaluation Report.

Future Evaluations

- Mission and Core Themes Report in Spring 2020.
- Ad Hoc Report with a visit in Spring 2020 to address Recommendations 1, 2, and 3 of the Fall 2018 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Peer-Evaluation Report.
- Mid-Cycle Evaluation and visit in Fall 2021 with an addendum to address Recommendations 4 and 5 of the Fall 2018 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Peer-Evaluation Report.

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- Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Evaluation and visit in Fall 2025.

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, Vice President Valerie Martinez.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sonny Ramaswamy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sonny" being more prominent than the last name "Ramaswamy".

Sonny Ramaswamy
President

SR:rb

cc: Mr. David Koehler, Accreditation Liaison Officer
Mr. John Forsyth, Chair, Treasure Valley Community College Board of Education
Dr. Jeff Wagnitz, Fall 2018 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Peer-Evaluation Committee
Chair