June 21, 1988

Hilary Hau, Chancellor
San Francisco Community College District
33 Gough Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

Dear Chancellor Hau:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting June 13-14, 1988, reviewed the institutional self study report and the report of the evaluation team which visited the San Francisco Community College District on April 19-21, 1988. I am pleased to inform you that accreditation has been reaffirmed.

The Commission asks that an interim report be submitted by March 1, 1990. The report should reflect an integrated community college district. The focus of the report will be on the four recommendations included in this letter and on progress being made in addressing the suggestions of the 1988 evaluation team.

The Commission is concerned about the insufficient response to recommendations of previous accreditation teams and issued a warning that failure to respond substantively could have serious consequences for the District. The role of the San Francisco Community College Centers faculty in producing a quality self study and supporting cooperative activities with City College of San Francisco is commended. The decision by the City College faculty not to participate in segments of the self study is contrary to the intent of the Commission and detrimental to institutional effectiveness.

The Commission urges all segments of the San Francisco Community College District to recommit themselves to cooperative and supportive governance procedures. Such an approach is deemed basic to provide students with full educational benefits and for the District to achieve its vast potential.

Recommendations

1. The District Board of Trustees should determine by Board action whether it wishes to maintain the San Francisco Community College District as an "umbrella organization with two operation components, City College of San Francisco and the San Francisco Community College Centers." Such a conclusion leads to the expectation that the District will coordinate City College and the Centers' educational programs, student services, finances, and other activities to the benefit of students.
This statement of intent should be published in College and Centers publications and should serve as the basis for Board decisions on District policies and practices.

With such a clear statement of purpose, a governance climate can be fostered that will enhance the District's mission and commitment to its diverse student clientele.

2. With the support of the Board of Trustees, the Chancellor should provide the leadership for cooperative College and Centers activities such as planning, curriculum articulation, student transfer, facilities utilization, etc. With the requisite faculty involvement, this coordination will achieve efficiencies between the components to the maximum benefit of students.

3. The chancellor should establish a structure and timeline for responding to the recommendations and reviewing the suggestions of the 1988 accreditation team. The structure should assure coordination between the components.

4. The Chancellor should identify the major educational issues effecting the San Francisco Community College District, and a method by which these issues can be addressed by the two operating components (City College of San Francisco and the San Francisco Community College Centers). This method should encourage maximum participation by staff and students and assure that the Board of Trustees receives timely reports on progress.

The report will be followed by a limited team visit to validate progress made on these issues.

Under the policy of periodic review, accreditation is without limit of time unless terminated by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges. Institutions make annual reports to the Commission and are reviewed periodically as explained in the 1987 Guide to Institutional Self Study & Reports to the Commission. The next five-year review will be conducted before June 30, 1993.

The Commission wishes to remind you that the recommendations contained in the evaluation report represent the observations of the evaluation team at the time of the visit. An institution may concur or disagree with any part of the team report, but it is expected that the report will be used for the improvement of the educational services of the institution.

I have previously sent you one copy of the evaluation team report, which you are at liberty to use in any way you may wish. Additional copies may be duplicated as needed. The Commission asks that you give the report appropriate dissemination to your college staff, including the signatories of your college self study.
On behalf of the Commission, I wish to express continuing interest in the advancement of the College's educational programs and services. Professional self-regulation is the most effective means of assuring quality and countering external regulation.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

John C. Peterson

cc: Rena Merritt Bancroft, President, San Francisco Community College Centers
    Carlos B. Ramirez, President, City College of San Francisco Governing Board Chairperson
    Rosa G. Perez, Accreditation Liaison Officer
    Dr. Joyce Tsunoda, Team Chairperson
    Evaluation Team Members