January 31, 2006

Dr. Leon Richards
Acting Chancellor
Kapi‘olani Community College
4303 Diamond Head Road
Honolulu, HI 96816

Dear Chancellor Richards:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting on January 11-13, 2006, reviewed the Progress Report submitted by the college and the report of the evaluation team which visited on Tuesday, November 15, 2005. The Commission took action to accept the report.

The team noted and the Commission commends the college for making progress in developing an integrated approach to its evaluative and planning activities. It was also noted that the college has developed an internal fund for allocation to projects identified through program review processes. What remains now is for Kapi‘olani Community College to extend its exemplary assessment and improvement efforts to all programs at the institution, and for it to incorporate the system’s requirement for common core data elements.

I have previously sent you a copy of the evaluation team report. Additional copies may now be duplicated. 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 campus and system leadership and the Board of Trustees. The Commission also requires that all reports be made available to the public. Placing copies in the college library can accomplish this.

Please note that the next comprehensive evaluation of Kapi‘olani Community College will occur during Fall 2006. The college and the UH CC System should demonstrate further progress on the issues of assessment, institutional effectiveness and improvement, as provided for in the spring 2005 accreditation team reports to the college and the System.
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.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Beno, Ph.D.
President

BAB/tl

cc: Dr. David McClain, Interim President, University of Hawaii
    Dr. Robert France, Accreditation Liaison Officer
    Mr. Michael Rota, Associate Vice President
    Dr. Patricia Lee, Chair, Board of Regents, University of Hawaii
    Dr. Barbara A. Beno, President, Team Chair
    Evaluation Team Members