



February 3, 2020

President Birgitte Ryslinge  
Oregon Coast Community College  
400 SE College Way  
Newport, OR 97366

Dear President Ryslinge:

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 8-10, 2020, concerning the Fall 2019 Initial Accreditation Evaluation of Oregon Coast 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**

- Grant Accreditation

#### **Status of Previous Recommendations Addressed in this Evaluation**

- Recommendation 1: Spring 2018 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability - Fulfilled
- Recommendation 2: Spring 2018 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability - Fulfilled
- Recommendation 3: Spring 2018 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability - Fulfilled
- Recommendation 4: Spring 2018 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability - Fulfilled
- Recommendation 5: Spring 2018 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability - Fulfilled

#### **Commendations**

The Commission commends Oregon Coast Community College for:

1. Developing strong community and high school partnerships that leverage resources and increase opportunities for the campus and local community in support of its core theme of Educational Pathways.
2. The staff, faculty, and administration's creation of a cohesive, collaborative, welcoming climate, with strong support for student success in the form of financial mapping, development of an emergency loan and support fund, mandatory attendance and advising, "Forgot Your Lunch" program, multiple measures-placement, math pathways, and student payment flexibility.
3. The establishment of extensive emergency preparedness and continuity of operation plans, including the local first responders and the public-school district which also anticipates the needs of 5,000 people for three days as a campus-refuge point.

4. The Student Services Department's implementation of a culture of transition and success for students through the Navigator, advising, and financial aid programs.
5. Establishing an operating budget reserve of 12.5% which allows the flexibility to address the needs for emergency funding and strategic initiatives.

### **Recommendations Substantially in Compliance But in Need of Improvement**

The Commission recommends that Oregon Coast Community College:

1. Fully implement the system of evaluation of its programs and services to evaluate achievement of clearly identified program goals or intended outcomes and use the results of its assessments of services for improvement by planning, decision-making and allocation of resources and capacity (2020 Standards: 1.B.1, 1.B.3)
2. Refine and fully implement the system for assessing student learning outcomes for courses, programs, and degrees, utilizing the results to inform academic learning, support planning, and practices leading to the enhancement of student learning achievement (2020 Standards: 1.C.5, 1.C.7).
3. Develop a purposeful, systematic, integrated, and comprehensive plan articulating priorities and guiding decisions on resource allocation and application of institutional capacity (2020 Standards: 1.B.3)
4. Assess the performance evaluation process, implementation, and feedback mechanisms, professional growth and development, and support resources for employees necessary for improvement of its operational functions (2020 Standards: 2.F.2, 2.F.4)
5. Develop, implement, and review a comprehensive technology infrastructure plan (2020 Standards: 2.I.1)

### **Future Evaluations**

- Ad Hoc Report without a visit in Spring 2021
  - Recommendation 5: Fall 2019 Initial Accreditation
- Mid-Cycle Review Fall 2022
  - Recommendation 1: Fall 2019 Initial Accreditation
  - Recommendation 2: Fall 2019 Initial Accreditation
  - Recommendation 3: Fall 2019 Initial Accreditation
  - Recommendation 4: Fall 2019 Initial Accreditation
- Policies, Regulations, and Financial Review Fall 2025
- Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness Fall 2026

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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.

Sincerely,



Sonny Ramaswamy  
President

SR:eg

cc: Mr. Dan Lara, Dean of Academics and Workforce  
Dr. Rick Aman, President, College of Eastern Idaho  
Ms. Valerie Martinez, Vice President, Bates Technical College