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January 23, 2014

Dr. Susan D. Huard
President
Manchester Community College
1066 Front Street
Manchester, NH 03102

Dear President Huard:

I write to inform you that at its meeting on November 21, 2013, the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education considered the report submitted by Manchester Community College and took the following action:

that the report submitted by Manchester Community College be accepted;

that the comprehensive evaluation scheduled for Fall 2017 be confirmed;

that, as noted in our letters of February 13, 2013 and October 28, 2013, the self-study prepared in advance of the Fall 2017 comprehensive evaluation give emphasis to the College's continued success in implementing its institutional effectiveness plan and using the results of assessments for improvement, and in implementing the Enhanced Credit Transfer Initiative of the New Hampshire community colleges.

The Commission gives the following reasons for its actions.

The report submitted by Manchester Community College (MCC) was accepted because it was generally responsive to the concerns raised by the Commission in our letter of February 13, 2013.

We commend Manchester Community College for its comprehensive report that documents the substantial progress the College has made in implementing its institutional effectiveness plan and using the results for improvement. The College has hired a new Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs to oversee the implementation of the institutional effectiveness plan. A series of professional development activities aims to inculcate a culture of professionalism with respect to assessment and institutional effectiveness. The "bookends approach to student assessment" that includes a freshman seminar and capstone course has been developed to

better connect current and future student goals with professional and educational pathways. We are pleased to learn MCC has enrolled in the National Assessment Benchmarking Project and is a "beta-test participant" for the new Voluntary Framework for Accountability assessment process. Involvement in these projects had led to the development of the Manchester Assessment Action Plan (MAAP), which outlines a number of assessment initiatives and a timeline for implementation.

The scheduling of a comprehensive evaluation in Fall, 2017 is consistent with Commission policy requiring each accredited institution to undergo a comprehensive evaluation at least once every ten years. As noted in our letters of February 13, 2013 and October 28, 2013, we ask that the self-study prepared in advance of the comprehensive evaluation give emphasis to the College's continued success in implementing its institutional effectiveness plan and using the results of assessments for improvement, and in implementing the Enhanced Credit Transfer Initiative of the New Hampshire community colleges. The Commission recognizes that these matters will require the institution's sustained attention over time; hence, we ask for an update in Fall 2017.

The Commission expressed appreciation for the report submitted by Manchester Community College and hopes that its preparation has contributed to institutional improvement. It appreciates your cooperation with the effort to provide public assurance of the quality of higher education in New England.

You are encouraged to share this letter with all of the institution's constituencies. It is Commission policy to inform the chairperson of the institution's governing board of action on its accreditation status. In a few days we will be sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Paul Holloway. The institution is free to release information about the report and the Commission's action to others, in accordance with Commission policy.

If you have any questions about the Commission's action, please contact Barbara Brittingham, President of the Commission.

Sincerely,



Jean A. Wyld

JAW/sjp

Enclosure

cc: Paul Holloway