June 30, 2010

Dr. Steve Kinsella  
Superintendent/President  
Gavilan College  
5055 Santa Teresa Blvd  
Gilroy, CA 95020

Dear President Kinsella:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting June 9-11, 2010, reviewed the Midterm Report submitted by Gavilan College. The purpose of this review was to assure that the recommendations made by the comprehensive evaluation visit team had been addressed by the institution and that the College had also provided an update on the self-identified planning agendas which were included in the Self Study Report.

The Commission took action to accept the Midterm Report. Institutions are expected to meet Accreditation Standards at all times during the six-year review cycle and to provide evidence that they have addressed and resolved all recommendations made by the previous comprehensive evaluation team. This will be confirmed at the time of the next regularly scheduled visit. The College report was clear and concise with ample documentation to verify the work accomplished. Evidence was provided that program review is linked to resource allocation and that the process is regularly evaluated. The College provides training in support of student learning outcomes and assessment activities and the new Executive Information System enhances the College's capacity to collect and analyze data. Based on the report, adjunct faculty are now reviewed on a regular basis, in their first semester as new adjunct faculty and every three years for continuing faculty, even though attempts to negotiate a formal procedure with the union were not successful.

The Midterm Report will become part of the accreditation history of the College and should be used in preparing for the next comprehensive evaluation. 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 the campus leadership and the Board of Trustees. The Commission also requires that all reports be made available to students and the public. Placing copies in the college library can accomplish this.

Please note that the next comprehensive evaluation of Gavilan College will occur in Spring 2013.
Commission Concern: The Commission expects that institutions meet standards that require the identification and assessment of student learning outcomes, and the use of assessment data to plan and implement improvements to educational quality, by fall 2012. The Commission therefore requires that the College demonstrate in its next comprehensive evaluation report that the College has met these standards. (Standards I.B.1, II.A.2.e, II.A.2.f, II.B.4, and II.C.2)

On behalf of the Commission, I wish to express continuing interest in the institution’s educational quality and students’ success. Professional self-regulation is the most effective means of assuring institutional integrity, effectiveness, and quality.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Barbara A. Beno, Ph.D.
President

BAB/tl

cc: Dr. Kathleen Rose, Accreditation Liaison Officer
    Board President, Gavilan Community College District