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February 3, 2017

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WWCC Pres. Ofc.

Dr. Derek Brandes
President
Walla Walla Community College
500 Tausick Way
Walla Walla, WA 99362

Dear President Brandes: ^{Derek}

On behalf of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, I am pleased to inform you that at its January 11-13, 2017, meeting, the Board of Commissioners accepted Walla Walla Community College's Fall 2016 Year One *Mission and Core Themes* Report.

The Commission commends the College for the quality of its report and the insightful narrative which addressed Standard One.

The next regularly scheduled evaluation for Walla Walla Community College is the Mid-Cycle Evaluation in spring 2018. This Mid-Cycle Evaluation replaces the Year Three *Resources and Capacity* Evaluation and is intended to ascertain the institution's readiness to provide evidence (outcomes) of mission fulfillment and sustainability in the Year Seven *Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability* Evaluation. Please see the NWCCU website under "Forms" for "Guidelines for the Preparation of the Mid-Cycle Self-Evaluation Report."

As a reminder, the Commission has requested an addendum to the Fall 2018 Mid-Cycle Evaluation Report to address Recommendations 1, 2, and 3 of the Fall 2015 Year Seven Peer-Evaluation Report. These matters were the subject of correspondence dated January 29, 2016.

As the institution progresses toward its Mid-Cycle Evaluation, which, to the extent possible, should provide evidence of the use of direct and indirect measures of student learning outcomes, the Commission encourages the institution to focus clearly on its intended educational mission and articulation of student gains in learning outcomes. Please be guided by Eligibility Requirement 3, which states: "The institution's purpose is to serve the educational interests of its students and its principal programs lead to recognized degrees." Eligibility Requirement 11 states further that "(T)he educational program(s) culminate in the achievement of clearly identified student learning outcomes, and lead to collegiate-level degree(s) with degree designations consistent with program content in recognized fields of study."

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes for a peaceful and rewarding New Year.

Sincerely,

Sandra E. Elman
President

SEE:rb

cc: Dr. Marleen Ramsey, Vice President of Instruction