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March 4, 2008

Dr. Grace Sawyer Jones  
President  
Three Rivers Community College  
7 Mahan Drive  
Norwich, CT 06360

Dear President Jones:

I write to inform you that at its meeting on November 15, 2007, the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education considered the fifth-year interim and distance education reports submitted by Three Rivers Community College and voted to take the following action:

that the fifth-year interim report submitted by Three Rivers Community College be accepted;

that the distance education report submitted by Three Rivers Community College be accepted, and that distance education programming be encompassed within the institution's accreditation;

that the comprehensive evaluation scheduled for Fall 2012 be confirmed.

The Commission gives the following reasons for its actions.

The Commission commends Three Rivers Community College for addressing in a clear and highly organized manner all the areas of special emphasis raised by the Commission. We congratulate Three Rivers regarding the upcoming opening of its new campus in 2008. The Commission is gratified to note that the Community College system appears committed to increasing the number of full-time faculty at Three Rivers, and the institution is close to meeting the system benchmark with 63% of the teaching lines provided by full-time faculty. The College has added staff for its distance learning programs to strengthen advising and other services for these programs and they now appear to be adequate and improving.

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The distance education report was accepted, and the proposed programming encompassed within the College's accreditation because the Commission found that the activity appears substantially in compliance with the relevant *Standards for Accreditation* and Commission policies. The Commission appreciated the thorough report. Both programs currently offered online (the Associate of Arts in General Education and the Certificate in Laser and Fiber Optic Technology), were approved by the College's Curriculum Committee and appear to receive adequate oversight by the College. We are pleased to note that the College plans to modify the Certificate program to insure it is responsive to student and industry needs. The College also plans to increase the number of courses offered online. Three Rivers benefits from the many services provided by The Connecticut Distance Learning Consortium (CTDLC) to sustain high quality in its distance learning programming.

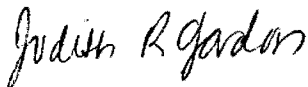
The scheduling of a comprehensive evaluation in Fall 2012 is consistent with Commission policy requiring each accredited institution to undergo a comprehensive visit at least once every ten years.

You are encouraged to share this letter with members of the College community. 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 Mrs. Louise Berry. The institution is free to release information about the evaluation and the Commission's action to others, in accordance with Commission policy.

The Commission hopes that the evaluation process has contributed to institutional improvement. It appreciates your cooperation in the effort to provide public assurance of the quality of higher education in New England.

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

Sincerely,



Judith R. Gordon

JRG/slo

Enclosure

cc: Mrs. Louise Berry