



July 17, 2015

Dr. Stacy Klippenstein President Miles Community College 2715 Dickinson Miles City, MT 59301

Dear President Klippenstein:

On behalf of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, I am pleased to report that the accreditation of Miles Community College has been reaffirmed on the basis of the Spring 2015 Year Seven *Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability* Evaluation which was expanded to address Recommendation 1 of the Spring 2012 Year Three Peer-Evaluation Report.

In reaffirming accreditation, the Commission determined that its expectations regarding Recommendation 1 of the Spring 2012 Year Three Peer-Evaluation Report have not been met and therefore requests that the College expand its Spring 2016 Year One *Mission and Core Themes* Self-Evaluation Report to again address this Recommendation. Moreover, the Commission requests that the College submit an Ad Hoc Report with a visit in spring 2016 to address Recommendations 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 of the Spring 2015 Year Seven Peer-Evaluation Report. A copy of the Recommendations is enclosed for your reference.

The Commission finds that Recommendation 1 of the Spring 2012 Year Three Peer-Evaluation Report and Recommendations 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 of the Spring 2015 Year Seven Peer-Evaluation Report are areas where Miles Community College is substantially in compliance with Commission criteria for accreditation, but in need of improvement.

The Commission commends the Board of Trustees, administration, faculty, staff and students for their intentional relationship building and for fostering a culture of belonging that supports and encourages student success. The College is to be lauded for effectively using assessment to redesign developmental Math and English pathways. The Commission applauds the College for its commitment to providing professional development opportunities for faculty and staff, and the administration for deliberate, effective, and diverse methods of internal communication.

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

President Stacy Klippenstein July 17, 2015 Page Two

Best wishes for a rewarding 2015-2016 academic year.

Sincerely,

Sandra E. Elman

President

SEE:rb

Enclosure: Recommendations

cc: Mr. Garth H. Sleight, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs

Mr. Jeff Okerman, Board of Trustees Chair

Mr. Clayton Christian, Commissioner of Higher Education, Montana University System

Year Seven Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Evaluation Spring 2015 Miles Community College Recommendations

- 1. The evaluation committee recommends that the College improve the timeliness and consistency of business processes (Standard 2.F.4 and 2.F.7).
- 2. The evaluation committee recommends that the College update long-range plans for facilities, technology and equipment replacement (Standard 2.F.5, 2.G.3, 2.G.4, and 2.G.8).
- 3. The evaluation committee recommends that the College centralize institutional research efforts including data collection and analysis (Standard 4.A.2).
- 4. The evaluation committee recommends that the College systematically assess student learning outcomes at the course, program, and institutional level (Standard 4.A.3 and 4.A.6).
- 5. The evaluation committee recommends that the College use the results of its assessment of student learning to inform planning and practices in all areas of the College (Standard 4.B.2).
- 6. The evaluation committee recommends that the College engage in a system of evaluation of its programs and services in order to make determinations of quality, effectiveness, and mission fulfillment (Standards 1.B.2, 4.A.2, and 5.A.2).