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15 October 2015

Krista Johns, Vice President for Policy and Research ACCJC 10 Commercial Blvd., Suite 204 Novato, CA 94949

Dear Vice President Johns,

Per the Commission's letter dated August 17, 2015 Hartnell College is providing the information for item 21 on the 2015 Annual Report. We put forth quite an effort and expended resources in an attempt to follow up with 158 completers as defined by ACCJC. There are many obstacles to this task and I can't speak for other community colleges, but Hartnell College is ill-equipped to follow-up on completers who left the college 2 years ago. The first obstacle is identifying current contact information. And if we are successful in obtaining current contact information, the second obstacle is getting people to respond. In most cases we tried (unsuccessfully) at least three times to connect with these individuals. For some who we did reach successfully, they were not willing to provide responses for us. I don't know what the answer is to this dilemma. All I know is that whatever information we are able to obtain under current approaches, it is significantly incomplete and does not provide an adequate picture of actual outcomes.



It seems to me this task is ripe for a system wide and/or ACCJC solution. Otherwise, like many other initiatives, we will have a bunch of colleges all reinventing the wheel and wasting valuable resources chasing down this information.

Sincerely,



Willard Lewallen, Ph.D. Superintendent/President

cc: Lori Kildal, Vice President of Academic Affairs/ALO
Brian Lofman, Dean of Institutional Planning and Effectiveness

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