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April 15, 2014

Dr. Gena Glickman
President
Manchester Community College
PO Box 1046
Manchester, CT 06045-1046

Dear President Glickman:

I am pleased to inform you that at its meeting on March 7, 2014, the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education considered the report submitted by Manchester Community College and took the following action:

that the report submitted by Manchester Community College be accepted;

that the fifth-year interim report scheduled for consideration in Spring 2017 be confirmed;

that, in addition to the information included in all fifth-year reports and the items specified in our letter of February 13, 2013, the report submitted for consideration in Spring 2017 provide evidence of the College's continued success in addressing the matters specified for attention in the Spring 2014 report;

that the comprehensive evaluation scheduled for Spring 2022 be confirmed.

The Commission gives the following reasons for its action.

The report submitted by Manchester Community College (MCC) was accepted because it was generally responsive to the concerns raised by the Commission in its letter of February 13, 2013.

The Commission commends MCC for its progress in increasing the number of full-time faculty. The College has hired 13 new full-time faculty members during the past two academic years and has plans to hire an additional four in 2014; this will bring the number of full-time faculty members to 109. We also note with favor the "meaningful changes" the College has made to its course scheduling that have resulted in a higher percentage of the instructional workload being covered by full-time faculty. Full-time and adjunct faculty participate in professional development programs concerning

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outcomes assessment, leadership, and educational technologies offered through the College's Leadership Institute, Center for Teaching, and Department of Educational Technology and Distance Learning. We are pleased to learn that MCC is actively pursuing strategies for high school student readiness for college-level English and math courses through collaborative partnerships focused on aligning curriculum, and assessment measures with local high schools. In response to changes in state regulations, the College has taken steps to modify developmental education by incorporating "embedded support" into several college-level classes. A Graduation and Student Success Committee is leading initiatives designed to improve graduation rates, and early results indicate an increase from 15.4% to 18.3% from Fall 2012 to Spring 2014. The institution's student success measure, which combines graduation, transfer, and still enrolled data, increased from 55% in 2011 to 60% in 2014.

We commend Manchester Community College for the steps it has taken to maintain fiscal stability despite a decline in state support of 10% from 2011 to 2013. The College's strategies included refilling only critical vacancies, reducing part-time hours, and reducing divisional expense budgets. We are pleased to learn that the College presented a balanced budget for FY2014 and "anticipates achieving or exceeding this goal" and that investments continue to be made in infrastructure using bond funds, grants, and Manchester Foundation support for operational and physical plant improvements. Finally, we note with favor the involvement of the campus community in the review of the MCC website; we understand that the anticipated "launch date" for the revised website is Spring 2014.

Commission policy requires a fifth-year interim report of all institutions on a decennial evaluation cycle. Its purpose is to provide the Commission an opportunity to appraise the institution's current status in keeping with the Policy on Periodic Review. In addition to the information included in all interim reports and the matters specified in our letter of February 13, 2013, the College is asked, in the Spring 2017 report, to give emphasis to its continued success in addressing the areas specified for attention in the Spring 2014 report. The Commission recognizes that these matters do not lend themselves to rapid resolution and will require the College's sustained attention over time; hence, we ask that further information be provided in the Spring 2017 report.

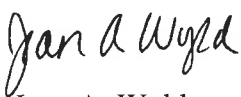
Finally, the scheduling of a comprehensive evaluation in Spring 2022 is consistent with Commission policy requiring each accredited institution to undergo a comprehensive evaluation at least once every ten years.

The Commission expressed appreciation for the report submitted by Manchester Community College and hopes that its preparation has contributed to institutional improvement. It appreciates your cooperation with the effort to provide public assurance of the quality of higher education in New England.

You are encouraged to share this letter with all of the institution's constituencies. 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 Mr. Nicholas M. Donofrio. The institution is free to release information about the report and the Commission's action to others, in accordance with Commission policy.

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

Sincerely,



Jean A. Wyld

JAW/jm
Enclosure

cc: Mr. Nicholas M. Donofrio