

August 27, 2012

To the College of Staten Island Community:

We are pleased to report that the Middle States Commission on Higher Education at its meeting on June 28, 2012, formally reaffirmed the accreditation of the College of Staten Island until our next Periodic Review Report due in 2017. Given the rigor and comprehensiveness of the self-study process, it is especially noteworthy that we received commendations from the external Evaluation Team on twelve of the fourteen standards. Most importantly, this outcome establishes that the College provides quality education experiences in support of our mission.

According to the visiting Evaluation Team's Report to the Faculty, Administration, Trustees, and Students, "The team commends CSI for the broad and inclusive process that it chose to revisit the Mission, Vision, Values, and Strategic Directions of the institution, and the creative manner in which it has engaged its constituencies in its strategic planning process." Additionally, "the team commends CSI on the comprehensive approach it has implemented to ensure that Institutional Assessment becomes part of the campus' fabric." The visiting evaluators also note, "...the development of an extensive plan to engage in assessment of student learning and a transformation among the academic programs and faculty which has created a culture that welcomes, encourages, and applauds assessment of student learning." We encourage all members of the campus community to review the final report prepared by the Evaluation Team that is available on the campus' Middle States website at <http://www.csi.cuny.edu/middlestates/teamreport>.

The Commission requested that the College prepare a monitoring report with updates on our progress related to the assessment of student learning, and General Education by December 1, 2013. Given the uncertainty in the College response to the Pathways Project, the Commission encouraged the College to reconcile the campus' overarching General Education goals with those articulated in Pathways. We must also explain how we will implement our assessment plans across all departments. The Commission's specific action can be found on the campus' Middle States site at <http://www.csi.cuny.edu/MiddleStates/action>.

The reaffirmation of the College's accreditation marks a major milestone in the life of the institution, one that required dedication, diligence, and integrity. We would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to self-study co-chairs, Dr. Susan Holak and Dr. Richard Powers, to members of the Steering Committee, Working Groups, Special Resources Committee, Student Government, and to all campus constituents who

participated in the preparation and execution of the campus visit last April. We congratulate all of you on a job well done and applaud your outstanding efforts.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of William J. Fritz in blue ink.

William J. Fritz, PhD  
Interim President

Handwritten signature of Fred Naider in blue ink.

Fred Naider, PhD  
Interim Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs/Provost