

ACCREDITING COMMISSION for COMMUNITY and JUNIOR COLLEGES

Western Association of Schools and Colleges

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July 2, 2012

Colonel Danial Pick Commandant Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center Presidio of Monterey Monterey, CA 93944

Dear Commandant Pick:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting on June 6-8, 2012, considered the institutional Self Study Report and the report of the evaluation team which visited Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center (DLIFLC) Monday, March 19-Thursday, March 22, 2012. The purpose of this comprehensive evaluation was to determine the degree to which DLIFLC complies with all ACCJC Accreditation Standards and Eligibility Requirements.

The Commission took action to **reaffirm accreditation**, with a requirement that DLIFLC complete a Follow-Up Report that must be submitted by **October 15, 2014**. Reaffirmation is granted when an institution is found to substantially meet or exceed the Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards, and Commission policies, but recommendations on a number of issues should be addressed. The Report should demonstrate that the institution has addressed the recommendations noted below, resolved the issues, and now fully meets Eligibility Requirements and Accreditation Standards. The recommendations are:

Recommendation #1: Mission

To fully meet the standards, the team recommends that the institution evaluate and consider revisions to the mission statement in light of its degree-granting status (I.A).

Recommendation #2: Institutional Planning

To meet the standards and achieve a level of *Sustainable Continuous Quality Improvement* in planning, the team recommends the institution evaluate its planning processes and systems evaluation mechanisms to ensure they are effective in improving instructional programs and services (I.B.5, I.B.6, IV.A).

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Recommendation #3: Off-site Programs and Services

To improve meeting the standards, the team recommends that the institution design, implement and assess a system of periodic evaluation of the instructional and support services provided to students in DLIFLC programs at locations outside the Monterey campus (II.A.2; II.B.1; II.B.3.a, II.C.1.c).

Recommendation # 4: Aptitude Assessment

To fully meet the standards, the team recommends that the institution establish a schedule on which the DLAB is periodically reviewed and revised as necessary to ensure the accuracy of its placement scores and to minimize gender and racial/ethnic testing or cultural bias (Standard II.B.3.e).

Recommendation #5: Decision-Making

To meet the standards, the team recommends the institution document and evaluate the decision-making processes and systems including with regard to the role of faculty and staff in institutional decision-making (IV.A.2, IV.A.5).

Recommendation #6: Governance

To fully meet the eligibility requirements and the standards and ensure continued accreditation, the team recommends that the institution work with appropriate higher authorities to ensure timely appointment/reappointment of BOV membership (ER 3; IV.B & ACCJC Policy on Governing Boards for Military institutions).

In its deliberations, the Commission noted that DLIFLC has demonstrated that it employs an exemplary range of effectiveness measures and evaluation tools, thereby striving to achieve its stated (new) mission of, "Delivering the world's best culturally-based foreign language training and education at the point of need." The evaluation team's recommendations should help the institution further develop its performance as an outstanding educational institution. Recommendation 2 repeats a recommendation made by the last comprehensive evaluation team in 2006. The Commission urges DLIFLC to work quickly to address this recommendation. The Commission also noted that appointments to the Board of Visitors, which serves as the institution's governing board, should be made as soon as possible.

DFIFLC conducted a comprehensive self study as part of its evaluation. The Commission suggests that the plans for improvement of the institution included in the resulting document be taken into account in the continuing improvement of DLIFLC.

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The Evaluation Report that was sent to the institution provides details of the team's findings with regard to each Eligibility Requirement and Accreditation Standard and should be read carefully and used to understand the team's findings. The recommendations contained in the Evaluation Report represent the best advice of the peer evaluation team at the time of the visit, but may not describe all that is necessary to come into compliance. Institutions are expected to take all actions necessary to comply with Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards and Commission policies. The Commission wishes to remind you that while an institution may concur or disagree with any part of the report, DLIFLC is expected to use the Evaluation Team report to improve educational programs and services and to resolve issues identified by the Commission.

I have previously sent a copy of the Evaluation Team Report. Additional copies may now be duplicated. The Commission requires you to give the Evaluation Team Report and this letter appropriate dissemination to your institution's staff and to those who were signatories of your institutional Self Study Report. This group should include the institution's leadership, and the Board of Visitors. The Commission also requires that the Evaluation Report, the Self Study Report and the Commission action letter be made available to students and the public. Placing copies on the DLIFLC website can accomplish this.

On behalf of the Commission, I wish to express continuing interest in the institution's educational programs and services. Professional self-regulation is the most effective means of assuring integrity, effectiveness and quality.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Beno, Ph.D.

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President

BAB/tl

cc: Dr. Robert Savukinas, Accreditation Liaison Officer

Chair, DFLIC Board of Visitors

Dr. Douglas Houston, Chancellor, Yuba Community College District, Team Chair

¹ Institutions preparing and submitting Midterm Reports, Follow-Up Reports, and Special Reports to the Commission should review *Guidelines for the Preparation of Reports to the Commission*. It contains the background, requirements, and format for each type of report and presents sample cover pages and certification pages. It is available on the ACCJC website under College Reports to ACCJC at: (http://www.accjc.org/college-reports-accjc).