



**ACCREDITING
COMMISSION
for COMMUNITY and
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

10 COMMERCIAL BOULEVARD
SUITE 204
NOVATO, CA 94949
TELEPHONE: (415) 506-0234
FAX: (415) 506-0238
E-MAIL: accjc@accjc.org
www.accjc.org

Chairperson
MICHAEL T. ROTA
University of Hawai'i

Vice Chairperson
SHERRILL L. AMADOR
Public Member

President
BARBARA A. BENO

Vice President
SUSAN B. CLIFFORD

Vice President
DORTE KRISTOFFERSEN

Vice President
GARMAN JACK POND

Associate Vice President
NORVAL WELLSFRY

June 30, 2011

Ms. Tonian Hohberg
President
Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising
919 South Grand Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Dear President Hohberg:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting on June 8-10, 2011, reviewed the institutional Self Study Report and the report of the evaluation team which visited Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising Monday, March 7-Thursday, March 10, 2011. The Commission took action to reaffirm accreditation, with a requirement that the College complete a Follow-Up Report.

The Commission notes that Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising is an excellent institution that complies with Commission standards and policies and does an outstanding job providing educational services to its students. The team report identified several areas for commendation.

The Commission asks that the Follow-Up Report be submitted by **October 15, 2012**. The Follow-Up Report should demonstrate the institution's resolution of the recommendations as noted below:

Recommendation 2:

In order to meet the Commission's fall 2012 deadline of Proficiency relative to student learning outcomes and authentic assessment for courses, programs, degrees, and student services, library and learning support areas, and to ensure results are being used for improvement and further alignment of institutional wide practices, the team recommends the following:

- The college should refine its alignment and assessment processes by ensuring that course outlines incorporate course and program level outcomes, as identified in the current rubrics which reflect levels of proficiency with which to assess those outcomes. (II.A.2, II.A.2.b, II.A.6)

Ms. Tonian Hohberg
Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising
June 30, 2011
Page Two

- Student Services should continue to engage all student services departments in the college's program review cycle. It is recommended that Student Services continue to implement department outcomes in order to fully engage all of student services in a shared philosophy of the cyclic process of assessment that leads to ongoing improvement of student and learning support services, and have a direct linkage to student learning. (II.B.3.a, II.B.3.c, II.B.4)
- The institution should strengthen the systematic review of its library services by assessing the effectiveness of its services with measures other than satisfaction and usage reports. (II.C.1.c, II.C.2)

Commission Recommendation 1:

The locally-designed MPT and EPT placement tests should be evaluated and re-examined for validity and freedom from test bias. As noted in the Self Study Report, the college should assess these instruments in order to meet Standards. (II.B.3.e.)

The Commission notes that the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandizing is an excellent institution that complies with Commission standards and policies and does an outstanding job providing educational services to its students. The team report identified several areas for commendation.

The College conducted a comprehensive self study as part of its evaluation. The Commission suggests that the plans for improvement of the institution included in that document be taken into account in the continuing improvement of Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising.

The recommendations contained in the Evaluation Team Report represent the observations of the evaluation team at the time of the visit. The Commission reminds you that while an institution may concur or disagree with any part of the report, the College 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 you 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 college staff and to those who were signatories of your college Self Study Report. This group should include the campus leadership and the Board of Trustees. The Commission also requires that the Evaluation Team Report and the Self Study Report be made available to students and the public. Placing a copy on the college web site can accomplish this. Should you require an electronic copy of the report, please contact Commission staff.

Ms. Tonian Hohberg
Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising
June 30, 2011
Page Three

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.
President

BAB/tl

cc: Dr. Carol Rookstool, Accreditation Liaison Officer
Board President, Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising
Mr. Ralph Wolff, President, ACSCU
Dr. Linda Lacy, Team Chair