May 25, 2021

Dr. Darryl Reome
Campus Chief Executive Officer
Tunxis Community College
271 Scott Swamp Road
Farmington, CT 06032-3187

Dear Dr. Reome:

I am pleased to inform you that at its meeting on April 22, 2021, the New England Commission of Higher Education considered the report submitted by Tunxis Community College regarding its graduation rates and took the following action:

that the report submitted by Tunxis Community College regarding its graduation rates be accepted;

that the comprehensive evaluation scheduled for Fall 2021 be confirmed.

The Commission gives the following reasons for its action.

The information submitted by Tunxis Community College (Tunxis) regarding its graduation rates was accepted because it was generally responsive to the request made by the Commission in its letter of January 25, 2021. According to the information received, the College’s most recent IPEDS graduation rate was 12%. We are gratified to learn that the overall success rate, which includes transfer students and students still enrolled at the College, is 60%. The Commission appreciates Tunxis’ student success initiatives, including its Early Alert Referral System, which “underwent a significant overhaul” in 2021; Reading and Writing Labs; and the Student Outcomes and Retention (SOAR) Team.

The scheduling of a comprehensive evaluation in Fall 2021 is consistent with Commission policy requiring each accredited institution to undergo a comprehensive evaluation at least once every ten years. We refer you to our letters December 5, 2018 and March 27, 2020 which specify additional matters to be addressed in the self-study prepared in advance of the Fall 2021 evaluation, including: “implementing and evaluating the effectiveness of planned student success initiatives with emphasis on improving retention and graduation rates.” This section of the self-study will afford Tunxis Community College an opportunity to provide evidence of its continued efforts to understand the success of its students and use data about student success, including graduation rates, for institutional improvement. We remind you of our standard on Educational Effectiveness:
The institution defines measures of student success and levels of achievement appropriate to its mission, modalities and locations of instruction, and student body, including any specifically recruited populations. These measures include rates of progression, retention, transfer, and graduation; default and loan repayment rates; licensure passage rates; and employment. The institution ensures that information about student success is easily accessible on its website (8.6).

The institution uses additional quantitative measures of success, such as further education, civic participation, religious formation, and others, as appropriate to its mission, to understand the success of its recent graduates. Information from students and former students is regularly considered (8.7).

The results of assessment and quantitative measures of student success are a demonstrable factor in the institution’s efforts to improve the curriculum and learning opportunities and results for students (8.8).

The Commission expressed appreciation for the report submitted by Tunxis Community College and hopes that the evaluation process has contributed to institutional improvement. It appreciates your cooperation with the effort to provide public assurance of the quality of higher education.

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 and the head of the system of action on its accreditation status. In a few days we will be sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Matt Fleury and Dr. Jane McBride Gates. The institution is free to release information about the report and the Commission’s action to others, in accordance with the enclosed policy on Public Disclosure of Information about Affiliated Institutions.

If you have any questions about the Commission’s action, please contact Lawrence M. Schall, President of the Commission.

Sincerely,

George W. Tetler

GWT/jm

cc: Mr. Matt Fleury
Dr. Jane McBride Gates

Enclosure: Public Disclosure of Information about Affiliated Institutions