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January 8, 2010

Mr. Ray M. Di Pasquale  
President  
Community College of Rhode Island  
Knight Campus, Room 3328  
400 East Avenue  
Warwick, RI 02886

Dear President Di Pasquale:

I am pleased to inform you that at its meeting on November 20, 2009, the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education considered the report submitted by the Community College of Rhode Island regarding its plans to offer distance education programming and took the following action:

that the report on distance education submitted by the Community College of Rhode Island be accepted, and the proposed distance education programming be included within the institution's accreditation.

The Commission gives the following reasons for its action.

The report submitted by the Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI) was accepted and the distance education programming encompassed within the institution's accreditation because the Commission finds the activity to be substantially in compliance with the *Standards for Accreditation*. We commend CCRI for its thoughtful approach to distance learning over the past decade and for a comprehensive report outlining the institution's plans to begin offering its Associate of Science in Business degree in a blended format in Fall 2010. We note with approval the strong leadership role that faculty play in distance learning at CCRI, and in particular, the faculty-led Distance Learning Advisory Committee, which develops and monitors CCRI's distance learning practices. We are gratified to note that students studying at a distance can take advantage of numerous online services, including applying for admission and financial aid and receiving advising and career counseling. CCRI has built an impressive technological infrastructure to support its online offerings, with increased Internet bandwidth, improved e-mail service for faculty and staff, and a newly-revamped website. We commend CCRI for a report that addresses student needs and greater access to the College.

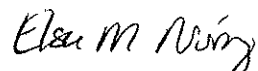
Mr. Ray M. Di Pasquale  
January 8, 2010  
Page 2

The Commission expressed appreciation for the report submitted by the Community College of Rhode Island and hopes its preparation has contributed to institutional improvement. We appreciate 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 Honorable Frank Caprio. The institution is free to release information about the evaluation 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, Director of the Commission.

Sincerely,



Elsa M. Nuñez

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Enclosure

cc: Honorable Frank Caprio