

## NEWS RELEASE

**News Contact:**

Andrew Carothers, College of Marin, 415-485-9528, [andrew.carothers@marin.cc.ca.us](mailto:andrew.carothers@marin.cc.ca.us)

### ACCREDITING COMMISSION KEEPS COLLEGE OF MARIN ON WARNING

**KENTFIELD, Calif., June 30, 2005**—College of Marin officials have learned that the institution’s accreditation will remain on warning until Fall at the earliest. Until then, the College must continue to make substantial institutional improvement.

The College has been working to comply with five requirements made by the Accrediting Association for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). The Commission evaluates all California community colleges every six years. The accreditation granted by WASC allows colleges to teach classes for credits that will transfer to other institutions and is essential to a school’s existence.

“I’m confident that we will build on the substantial institutional improvement we’ve made in the past year and meet the WASC requirements,” said Dr. Eva Long, president of the College of Marin Board of Trustees. “Having critical friends provide constructive feedback only helps us improve.”

At its meeting earlier this month, WASC accepted the College’s report detailing the progress it has made on five specific recommendations WASC made in January. However, WASC wants to see continued progress in three areas: implementing processes for institutional planning and improving student learning outcomes by January, 2006, and immediately ensuring the College’s new governance structure results in participation by all key stakeholders as required by law.

The College must complete a progress report by October 15. A team of WASC representatives then will visit the College to assess the College’s efforts through interviews with staff, faculty and students. WASC will then decide to remove the warning, retain it, or increase the warning to probationary status.

#### **About College of Marin**

College of Marin has been providing exceptional educational opportunities for students of all ages since 1926. Each semester, nearly 8,000 students are enrolled in over 1,100 credit classes. An additional 6,000 students take advantage of the College's many outstanding community education and community services classes. The College administration is located in Kentfield, CA. The College also operates the Indian Valley campus in Novato, CA.