

December 4, 2012

To all PCC students:

Representatives from the Higher Learning Commission will come to Pima Community College in January to learn more about issues raised recently by individuals and groups. As a PCC student, you should know that this visit by the organization that accredits our college will have no direct impact on your education.

The integrity and quality of PCC's programs and student support services are not being questioned. We do not expect any changes in our ability to provide financial aid, your ability to transfer courses and programs to another college or, most importantly, in the value of our degrees and certificates. In short, the opportunity afforded to you to get a high-quality education at an affordable price at PCC will not be affected.

So why is the HLC coming to PCC? In a Nov. 28 letter to Interim Chancellor Dr. Suzanne Miles, the HLC announced that it will send a fact-finding team to PCC to look into issues relating to governance, administration and human resources. Specific information about these issues is available on the Accreditation page of the PCC website. We take them very seriously and will cooperate fully with the HLC.

After the visit, the HLC will report its findings and instruct us on what changes, if any, need to be made. I can assure you that PCC welcomes any suggestion that will allow us to improve operations and better serve you, our students.

For more than 40 years, Pima Community College has been a great place to get an education. That won't change. As the HLC team talks to faculty, staff and students, I firmly believe it will come away with a renewed appreciation for the programs and services we provide to the approximately 30,000 students who each semester have chosen to fulfill their education goals at PCC.

Please feel free to direct any questions you may have regarding accreditation to my office at Accred-Questions@pima.edu.

Jerry Migler, Ph.D.

Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor of Pima Community College