Message from the Provost regarding PCC's status

To all PCC students:

PCC received word earlier today that our accreditor, the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), has placed the College on probation, a type of institutional status that I described to you in correspondence in March and earlier this month. (You can read the correspondence on the <u>Accreditation page</u> of our website, which contains a complete record of our interactions with the HLC.)

Allow me to get to the heart of the matter and discuss what probation means to you and your fellow students. Here are several things to remember:

- While on probation, PCC remains fully accredited by the HLC.
- As an accredited college, PCC's ability to offer financial aid to our students will not be affected.
- Also, as an accredited college, course transfer should not be affected. The University of Arizona, Northern Arizona University and Arizona State University have assured us that transfer will continue as it always has for PCC students. (Read these assurances on the <u>Accreditation page</u>.) The message from the universities is that they will continue to welcome transfer students from PCC.
- The quality of our instruction and programs is undiminished. The HLC has not identified any concerns with PCC academics or student services. We remain a great place to get a quality education at a reasonable price.

What's next for PCC? The HLC will conduct a comprehensive evaluation visit of PCC in the Fall of 2014. At the evaluation, we will be required to provide clear evidence of our progress toward solving the problems identified by the HLC in its notification today.

You should know that PCC immediately will begin working toward making the mandated changes so that we can restore the HLC's fullest confidence in our institution. PCC is a great place to learn and we will continue our tradition of providing high quality academic programs and student services.

As always, feel free to direct any questions about accreditation to the Provost's Office via <u>Accred-Questions@pima.edu</u>.

Jerry Migler, Ph.D. Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Pima Community College