Colleagues,

I have more good news to report regarding our administration of Federal Title IV student aid processes.

In a letter dated Jan. 27, The U.S. Department of Education notified the College of its Final Program Review Determination regarding concerns raised in a 2014 review of our administration of federal Title IV student aid. In October we responded to the review.

Quoting from the Jan. 27 letter, Martina Fernandez-Rosario, Division Director, San Francisco/Seattle School Participation Division, wrote: “PCC’s response has resolved all findings related to the issues cited in the program review report. In addition, PCC has provided assurances that the appropriate corrective actions have been taken to resolve and prevent future occurrences of all findings. Therefore, PCC may consider the program review closed with no further action required.”

The College is required to apply for recertification of our participation in Title IV programs no later than March 31, 2015, but this is not tied to the Program Review findings. Higher education institutions are approved to participate in a six-year cycle and PCC’s cycle ends in June 2015. In the College’s recertification application, we will indicate that all Title IV regulations are being appropriately followed and adhered to, and that we have appropriate systems, policies and procedures in place to remain in compliance.

In addressing the concerns of the Department of Education, the College has sought to keep employees, students and the community informed, and throughout has responded forthrightly and comprehensively. Our colleagues on the Financial Aid team, Student Accounts/Finance, and the Attendance Task Force, as well as so many others who have committed to excellence in administration of Title IV, deserve our gratitude for their work to ensure the best-possible services for our students.

Lee D. Lambert,
Chancellor