

April 8, 2008

Ms. Jean Avnet Morse
President, MSCHE
3624 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA
19104-2680

Dear Ms. Morse:

On behalf of everyone at York College associated with the Middle States accreditation process – faculty, students, staff and administration – I want to express our appreciation for the thoughtful, focused and incisive report that the team has provided to us. It is evident that not only was the College's self-study report read carefully but our analyses and plans for the future were examined and thoroughly vetted in the three-day campus visit.

The entire self-study process, which was truly an effort by our entire College, has provided York with a unique opportunity to reflect on its recent past and to chart a strategic and energetic course for the future. We have felt, and the Middle States team has affirmed, that our college has emerged from a period of challenge and change poised to fulfill its many promises.

York is on a path to achieve steady and stable enrollment growth. We are positioned as a senior college within CUNY's integrated system to build on existing academic strengths with new undergraduate and master's offerings that will both attract students and serve particular niches in the greater New York City area. York is committed as well to building effective bridges with CUNY's community colleges.

Since its early days, the College has been an integral part of the southeast Queens community. We have constructed effective relationships and partnerships, especially revolving around the Small Business Development Center, the FDA testing laboratory and the Aviation Institute. These contribute to both the community's and overall city's economic development. This effective role will be enhanced in the years ahead, especially through applied research.

As President of the college, I accept the team's findings and want to express my personal appreciation and that of our entire college community for the commendations that will buoy us on our journey to sustained excellence. We will be guided by the Middle States team's suggestions and recommendations concerning all aspects of the College's missions, operations and programs. Our focus will be sharpened in several areas including:

- Reaching consensus on the goals and objectives of general education
- Reviewing all course syllabi to insure consistency and measurable student outcomes
- Revising and implementing our assessment plan
- Integrating fully strategic planning as part of all college decision-making, especially involving resource allocation
- Continuing to recruit significant numbers of full-time faculty in all disciplines
- Proceeding with a master plan for facilities that will enhance the physical environment of the campus
- Implementing a solid structure for institutional advancement
- Continuing student mentoring activities and other support services
- Expanding training for both faculty and students in the application educational technology

The College has developed plans and practical implementation strategies in all of these areas. In some we are more advanced than others. It is critically important, however, for the Middle States team to have refocused and encouraged our efforts.

So once again I would like to thank Middle States and the individual team members for their time, effort and thoughtfulness. You have provided us with a strong impetus on our journey to sustained excellence.

Sincerely,

Marcia V. Keizs
President