

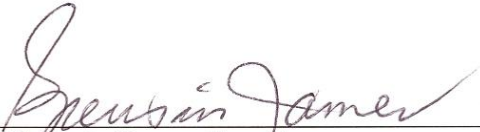
Self Study Report 2010

**CERTIFICATION OF CONTINUED COMPLIANCE
WITH ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

College of Micronesia – FSM

Certification

We certify that the College of Micronesia – FSM continues to be in compliance with the Eligibility Requirements for the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges to the best of our knowledge.



Spensin James, President

12/12/09
Date



Graceful Enlet, Board of Regents Chair

12/12/09
Date

Eligibility Requirements Statements

1. Authority

The College of Micronesia-FSM is authorized to operate as an institution of higher education and it awards degrees and certificates by the authority of the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) as evidenced by FSM enabling law Title 40, Chapter 7 Section 4 of the FSM Code. The college is the national institution of higher education for the Federated States of Micronesia.

2. Mission

The college's mission statement is publicized and is available in all planning documents and in the college's catalog. The mission statement clearly reflects the college's mandate for existence as stated in the FSM enabling law which created the institution. Through the mission statement, the college sees itself as a "continuously improving and student centered institute of higher education" which serves "the Federated States of Micronesia." The college's mission statement was adopted by the Board of Regents as evidenced in the board minutes and is reviewed at the president's retreat on an annual basis and modifications are endorsed by the board of regents. The latest revision to the mission statement was endorsed by the board of regents as recommended through of president's retreat of 2006.

3. Governing Board

The College of Micronesia-FSM is governed by the Board of Regents who ensures the quality, integrity, and financial stability of the college through oversight functions over the operations of the college. The board ensures that the college's mission is carried out through regular reporting from the College's president. The board of regents approves the college's budget

This board is ultimately responsible for ensuring that the financial resources of the institution are used to provide a sound educational program. Its membership is sufficient as evidenced by their diversity, in size and composition to fulfill all board responsibilities.

The governing board is an independent policy-making body capable of reflecting constituent and public interest in board activities and decisions. A majority of the board members have no employment, family, ownership, or other personal financial interest in the college.

The board adheres to a conflict of interest policy that assures that those interests are disclosed and that they do not interfere with the impartiality of governing body members or outweighs the greater duty to secure and ensure the academic and fiscal integrity of the institution. This is documented in the board policies.

4. Chief Executive Officer

The College of Micronesia-FSM has a chief executive officer who was appointed by the Board of Regents. The current chief executive officer is known as President Spensin James. The president's full-time responsibility is to the institution. He possesses the requisite authority to administer board policies. The chief executive officer serves as an ex-officio and nonvoting member of the board.

5. Administrative Capacity

The College of Micronesia-FSM currently hires adequate staff to support its academic, administrative, student services and cooperative research and extension services programs at the college. The college has developed an enrollment management indicator which provides the ratios of faculty to students, to staff, to number of classroom buildings, to restroom, and to all service areas of the college. The college enforces the Commission policy that all faculty and staff must have US equated credentials. The college conducts job audits where such ratios are reexamined.

6. Operational Status

The College of Micronesia-FSM continues to operate since it was founded as noted in the introduction of this report. Students continue enroll into the college's degree and certificate programs at all sites during all semesters.

7. Degrees

About half of the programs offered by the college are degree programs as evidenced in the college's catalog. Most of the students enrolled at the college are registered under these degree programs. All degree programs require students to complete some general education courses. Information about the programs and enrollment can be found under Standard II.

8. Educational Programs

All degree programs at the college have direct link to the college's mission. The assessment plans for each program clearly links to the college's mission. All degree programs are based on recognized higher education fields of study. The college, through concurrence by the curriculum committee, ensures that all programs are of sufficient content and length, are conducted at levels of quality and rigor appropriate to the degrees offered, and culminate in identified student learning outcomes. Most degree programs are of two academic years in length.

9. Academic Credit

The college awards degrees based on generally accepted practices in degree-granting institutions of higher education. The college has never been questioned by other institutions regarding its degree-granting practices when negotiating articulation agreements. The College of Micronesia-FSM operates under the authority of the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia. This authority from the government does not interfere with the college's freedom to award academic credits.

10. Student Learning Achievement

The college's catalog contains student learning and achievement outcomes for all programs. The college is engaged in the assessment of its learning outcomes for programs and degrees as evidenced in programs assessment reports.

11. General Education

The college incorporates into all its degree programs general education requirements. The general education component is designed to ensure that students demonstrate competence in writing and computational skills and some other areas of knowledge. For more information about the general education component of degree programs, please refer to Standard IIA(3).

12. Academic Freedom

The college adheres to an academic freedom policy as can be found in the college's catalog.

13. Faculty

The college has a substantial core of qualified faculty with full-time responsibility to the college. The core is sufficient in size and experience to support all of the college's programs as guided by the college's enrollment management indicators. Faculty has links to the curriculum committee who reviews the curriculum and all core faculty members are required to assess their students' learning.

14. Student Services

Through the use of the enrollment indicators and program assessment reports, the college is able to ensure for students appropriate student services that support student learning and development within the context of the institutional mission. The college utilizes the enrollment management indicators, the strategic plan and the balanced scorecard during this process.

15. Admissions

The college has an admissions policy which specifies its mission and shows the qualifications of students for the college's programs. This information is made available to all students in the general catalog.

16. Information and Learning Resources

The college provides learning resources services at all its six sites. The college profiles its holdings and resources and this information is made available to the college community and to other patrons. In Kosrae, where it currently does not have a library, the college entered into an agreement with the Kosrae state government to ensure access to the library there by faculty, staff and students. The college has interlibrary loan agreements other libraries within the Micronesian region including Hawaii.

17. Financial Resources

The college currently operates on an 11.5 million dollar budget. The funding comes from tuition and fees and from the FSM national government. Contribution from the government has been steady at 3.8 million dollars annually while the college offsets cost increases through utilizing revenue generated from tuition and fees.

18. Financial Accountability

The college's financial statements are audited externally by the auditing firm of Deloitte & Touche. From 2004 to 2008, the college received an unqualified opinion from the auditor on the audit of the college's financial statements. The audits include the single audit required by the US Federal Government, and performed in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards.

19. Institutional Planning and Evaluation

The college's policy on continuous improvement cycle provides the overall linkages between planning, assessment and resource allocation and the effectiveness of those linkages. The policy includes provisions for periodically reviewing the continuous improvement cycle. The continuous improvement process also includes the assessment process for both instructional and service areas which feed back into planning and resource allocation.

20. Public Information

The college publishes a general catalog biannually which contains the following information:

General Information

- Official Name, Addresses, Telephone Numbers, and Web Site Address of the college
- Educational Mission
- Course, Program, and Degree Offerings
- Academic Calendar and Program Length
- Academic Freedom Statement
- Available Student Financial Aid
- Available Learning Resources
- Names and Degrees of Administrators and Faculty
- Names of Governing Board Members Requirements
- Admissions
- Student Fees and Other Financial Obligations
- Degree, Certificates, Graduation and Transfer Major Policies Affecting Students
- Academic Regulations, including Academic Honesty
- Nondiscrimination
- Acceptance of Transfer Credits
- Grievance and Complaint Procedures
- Sexual Harassment (under development)
- Refund of Fees

Other policies can be found in the manual of administrative policies and procedures for instructional affairs, student services, business and finance, and the board of regents. Print and other media advertisements are available online and with the director of development and community relations.

21. Relations with the Accrediting Commission

The college communicates regularly with the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) through its Accreditation Liaison Officer (ALO). The college regularly updates the ACCJC through annual and annual fiscal reports, self study reports, mid-term reports, follow-up reports and substantive change reports. The college ALO updates the college community and public regarding the college's accreditation through email, online and news releases. The college currently runs a website dedicated to its accreditation.