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January 8, 2016

Dr. Patricia A. Gentile
President
North Shore Community College
DB 345
One Ferncroft Road
Danvers, MA 01923-0840

Dear President Gentile:

I am pleased to inform you that at its meeting on November 20, 2015 the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education considered the report submitted by North Shore Community College regarding its instructional location at North Shore Technical High School in Middleton, Massachusetts, as well as the report of the evaluator and took the following action:

that the report regarding the temporary instructional location for the College's Cosmetology and Culinary Arts programs at North Shore Technical High School in Middleton, Massachusetts be accepted and inclusion of the site within the institution's accreditation be confirmed;

that the comprehensive evaluation scheduled for Fall 2019 be confirmed;

that, in addition to the information included in all self-studies, as well as the matters specified in our letter of February 11, 2015, the self-study prepared in advance of the Fall 2019 evaluation give emphasis to the institution's success in completing its Master Facilities Plan and permanently relocating its Cosmetology and Culinary Arts programs to the College's Lynn campus.

The Commission gives the following reasons for its action.

The Commission accepted the report submitted by North Shore Community College and confirmed inclusion of the North Shore Technical High School instructional location in Middleton, MA within the institution's accreditation because the report was responsive to the concerns raised in our letter of October 14, 2014 and provided evidence that the College is implementing the location in a manner consistent with Commission standards and policies.

We commend North Shore Community College (NSCC) for successfully relocating its Cosmetology and Culinary Arts programs to North Shore Technical High School (NSTHS), “exceeding the expectations of everyone involved.” We understand from the evaluator that, though it has a smaller footprint, the improved facility with its upgraded equipment now provide an enhanced learning environment which is evidence of the institution’s commitment to the two programs. We are pleased to learn that as of October 2014 the Cosmetology program offered at the Middletown site is fully licensed by the Board of Registration. While there is no on-site director, NSTHS’s close proximity to the College’s Danvers location (3.5 miles) and the availability of a free campus shuttle bus provide students easy access to general education courses and “key” services, and make it possible for faculty to fully participate in the College’s academic and governance structures. Of particular note are both the real-world experience students receive through the Beacon Café and working salon, both of which are open to the community, and the visits by campus librarians to deliver library orientation and bibliographic instruction.

The scheduling of a comprehensive evaluation in Fall 2019 is consistent with Commission policy requiring each accredited institution to undergo a comprehensive evaluation at least once every ten years. In addition to the information provided in all self-studies and the matters specified in our letter of February 11, 2015, we look forward, in Fall 2019, to receiving information about a matter related to our standard on *Physical and Technological Resources*.

We understand that North Shore Community College is working “diligently, consistently, and on-schedule” to resolve the space constraints at the North Shore Technical High School location that are limiting the growth of its Cosmetology and Culinary Arts programs by relocating the programs to the College’s Lynn campus. The move, anticipated to take place within the next three to five years, involves completion of the institution’s Master Academic Plan and Master Facilities Plan and approval of a state bond to fund development of the site. As specified in our standard on *Physical and Technological Resources*, the Fall 2019 self-study will provide an opportunity for the institution to provide an update on the success of its efforts to find a permanent home of sufficient size to house its Cosmetology and Culinary Arts programs.

The institution’s physical and technological resources, including classrooms, laboratories, network infrastructure, materials, equipment, and buildings and grounds, whether owned or rented, are commensurate with institutional purposes. They are designed, maintained, and managed at both on- and off-campus sites in a manner that serves institutional needs. Proper management, maintenance, and operation of all physical facilities, including student housing provided by the institution, are accomplished by adequate and competent staffing (8.1).

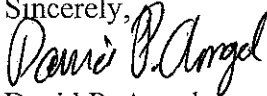
The institution undertakes physical resource planning linked to academic and student services, support functions, and financial planning. It determines the adequacy of existing physical and technological resources and identifies and plans the specified resolution of deferred maintenance needs. Space planning occurs on a regular basis as part of physical resource evaluation and planning, and is consistent with the mission and purposes of the institution (8.4).

The Commission expressed appreciation for the reports prepared by North Shore Community College and the evaluator and hopes that the evaluation process has contributed to institutional improvement. It appreciates your cooperation in the effort to provide public assurance of the quality of higher education in New England.

You are encouraged to share this letter with all of the institution’s constituencies. It is Commission policy to inform the chairperson of the institution’s governing board of action on its

accreditation status. In a few days we will be sending a copy of this letter to J. D. LaRock. The institution is free to release information about the report and the Commission's action to others, in accordance with the enclosed policy on Public Disclosure of Information about Affiliated Institutions.

If you have any questions about the Commission's action, please contact Barbara Brittingham, President of the Commission.

Sincerely,

David P. Angel

DPA/sjp

cc: J. D. LaRock.
Martha Laflamme