July 1, 2025

Dear EC Community,

I'm pleased to share that the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) recently re-affirmed Elmira College's accreditation based on the findings of the MSCHE Visiting Team visit and review. As a reminder, MSCHE is the agency responsible for accrediting colleges and universities in this region.

In addition to finding the College in compliance with the seven accreditation standards, the Visiting Team's report shared valuable insights, acknowledgements, and recommendations. I've shared a few of these below.

- "We applaud the recent success of Enrollment Management and coordinated offices to bring in a larger class of students in Fall 2024 and we see the sustained efforts that are showing initially positive signs for Fall 2025. This has contributed to the sense of hope and positivity across campus."
- "We applaud the significant and systematic attention paid to retention efforts by CAPE (Center for Academic & Professional Excellence) and other coordinated offices on campus."
- "We recognize the deep and abiding passion and commitment among employees for their students and the liberal arts mission of the College; we also note the general sense of trust and support for senior leadership, especially among faculty."
- "We note the effective use of assessment data by CAPE, and the Behavioral Intervention Team and encourage other student support areas to similarly use data-driven decision making in developing and implementing action plans."
- "The College and the administration have made great strides in strengthening shared governance. They are to be commended for the creative efforts that have significantly reduced their debt burden, and the implementation of the cy-pres process in concert with the Reimagining Elmira College plan to restore the operational and financial health of the institution. This has taken imagination, vision, and courage, which have resulted in initially promising results of which you should all be proud."

This affirmation provides further evidence of the College's progress and quality improvement and is the result of a team effort led by Dr. Mitch Lewis and Dr. Patricia Ireland, co-chairs of the MSCHE Steering Committee, with support from faculty, trustees, and staff members across the institution.

I hope you're having a wonderful summer.

Sincerely,

Chuck Lindsay, PhD

Dales V. Inhay

President