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October 29, 2002

Brad Phillips, Ph.D.
Senior Director Institutional Research, Planning, and Academic Services
Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District
8800 Grossmont College Drive
El Cajon, CA 92020

Dear Dr. Phillips:

Subject: Intersegmental Data Sharing

I am writing this letter of support for the Intersegmental Data Sharing Initiative that you currently lead. The Palomar Community College District embraces this project. We believe that it will help improve reporting of research outcomes and ultimately student success. Recently, the District published a new three year Strategic Plan. As part of this plan, we have created an annual implementation plan and identified criteria for evaluating our progress toward accomplishing our strategic goals and objectives. One of our evaluative measures includes tracking and assessing student success after transfer. We are currently establishing the templates and processes for using the database established through the Intersegmental Data Sharing Initiative for this purpose.

Further, one of our objectives for this year includes improving articulation with area high schools at the discipline level and within student services. To help accomplish this objective, we are working with four high school districts within our service area. Each high school district has signed Data Sharing Agreements and we are working to load their data onto the project's database. We will use research from this data as a tool for high school and community college curriculum councils. These councils will work together to align and improve instruction at both agencies (high schools and community colleges).

I believe that Palomar College is integrating Intersegmental Data Sharing throughout our institution and establishing it as part of our culture and commitment to student learning and success. Thank you for your insight and leadership in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

Michelle Barton
Director, Institutional Research and Planning
Palomar Community College District