



**PimaCountyCommunityCollegeDistrict**

**Office of the Chancellor**

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September 15, 2021

Robert Rucker  
Manager of Compliance and Complex Evaluations  
Higher Learning Commission  
230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500  
Chicago, IL 60604-1411

Via electronic submission

Dear Mr. Rucker:

On behalf of Pima Community College, I am acknowledging receipt of your letter dated September 2, 2021 containing the recommendation for a Focused Visit regarding Criterion Two, Core Component 2.C, on governing board autonomy. While we believe the College remains fully compliant with this Criterion, we understand the basis for a Focused Visit and welcome the opportunity to provide additional information on this subject.

During the past two years, the College has experienced instances when its Board members have expressed differing views regarding their role and the governance processes at the College. More importantly, individual Board members have not always expressed these differences in a manner consistent with the existing governance framework. As part of ongoing efforts to address this situation and strengthen Board governance, the College and Board continue to seek assistance and professional development from outside organizations, including HLC. More recently, the College has retained outside legal counsel to assist the Board with a comprehensive review of the bylaws and with revisions, as appropriate based on the review. We believe the Focused Visit will complement these efforts.

We would welcome the insights and recommendations of the HLC review team. If there is any additional information that would be of assistance to the Institutional Actions Council when considering the recommendation, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lee D. Lambert", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lee D. Lambert  
Chancellor