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PRESIDENT
Mary Ellen Petrisko

March 2, 2016

Dr. Joseph I. Castro
President
California State University, Fresno
6241 North Maple Avenue
Fresno, CA 93740-8027

Dear President Castro:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning the California State University, Fresno (CsuFR) by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) at its meeting February 17-19, 2016. This action was taken after consideration of the report of the review team that conducted the Accreditation Visit to UCSC October 20-22, 2015. The Commission also reviewed the institutional report and exhibits submitted by the university prior to the Offsite Review (OSR), the supplemental materials requested by the team following the OSR, and the institution's January 7, 2016 response to the team report. The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the review with you in person and with Lynette Zelezny, Provost, by phone. Your comments were very helpful in informing the Commission's deliberations. The date of this action constitutes the effective date of the institution's reaffirmation with WSCUC.

Actions

1. Receive the Accreditation Visit Team Report
2. Reaffirm accreditation for ten years
3. Schedule the next reaffirmation review with the Offsite Review in spring 2025 and the Accreditation Visit in fall 2025
4. Schedule the Mid-Cycle Review in spring 2021
5. Schedule an Interim Report to be submitted by November 1, 2020 to address the following:
 - a. Implementation of a five-year plan for the assessment of the five core competencies with evidence of outcomes.
 - b. Update on implementation of e-portfolios with results.
 - c. Development of a five-year business plan to accompany the strategic plan

Commendations:

The Commission endorses the commendations cited in the team report and especially commends California State University, Fresno for the following:

1. For its disciplined focus on its mission as a community-engaged, regional university dedicated to providing baccalaureate and advanced degree opportunities to all students, especially those from disadvantaged circumstances.
2. The leadership team for creating an open and inclusive planning process.
3. For improving the overall 6-year graduation rate from 48.6% to 58.4% in two years, for closing the achievement gap for subgroups of non-traditional students, and for the strong collaboration of academic affairs and student support services providing high-touch services that contribute to student success for all segments of the student population.
4. For its sound financial management and the completion of its \$200 million dollar fundraising campaign.

Recommendations

The Commission identifies the following areas for further development:

1. Develop a five-year plan for the implementation of core competencies in all degree programs and demonstrate that the learning outcomes are being achieved. (CFR 2.6)
2. Develop a five-year business plan to accompany the strategic plan. (CFR3.4)
3. Set deadlines for activities, such as the scheduling of program reviews and assessment of core competencies, and clearly communicate when deadlines need to be changed. (CFR 3.7)
4. Move forward with its implementation of e-portfolios as an assessment tool, following approved processes. (CFR 2.6)

In taking this action to reaffirm accreditation, the Commission confirms that California State University, Fresno has addressed the three Core Commitments and has successfully completed the two-stage institutional review process conducted under the 2013 Standards of Accreditation. Between this action and the time of the next review for reaffirmation, the institution is encouraged to continue its progress, particularly with respect to student learning and success.

In accordance with Commission policy, a copy of this letter will be sent in one week to Timothy White, Chancellor of the California State University system. The Commission expects that the team report and this action letter will be posted in a readily accessible location on the CsuFr website and widely disseminated throughout the institution to promote further engagement and improvement

and to support the institution's response to the specific issues identified in these documents. The team report and the Commission's action letter will also be posted on the WSCUC website. If the institution wishes to respond to the Commission action on its own website, WSCUC will post a link to that response on the WSCUC website.

Finally, the Commission wishes to express its appreciation for the extensive work that California State University, Fresno undertook in preparing for and supporting this accreditation review. WSCUC is committed to an accreditation process that adds value to institutions while assuring public accountability, and we are grateful for your continued support of this process. Please contact me if you have any questions about this letter or the action of the Commission.

Sincerely,



Mary Ellen Petrisko
President

cc: William Ladusaw, WSCUC Commission Chair
Dennis Nef, Accreditation Liaison Office, Vice Provost
Timothy White, Chancellor, California State University System
Members of the Accreditation Visit team
Richard Osborn, WSCUC Staff Liaison