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February 1, 2005

Dr. F. Ann Millner
President
Weber State University
1001 University Circle
Ogden, UT 84408-1001

Dear President ~~Millner~~^{Ann}:

On behalf of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, I am pleased to report that the accreditation of Weber State University has been reaffirmed on the basis of the fall 2004 comprehensive evaluation. Congratulations on receiving this continued recognition.

The policy of the Commission is not to grant accreditation for a definite number of years. Instead, accreditation must be reaffirmed periodically. Each institution is required to conduct a self-study and be visited by a full evaluation committee at least once every ten years, and during the fifth year, the institution is to submit an interim report and be visited by one or more Commission representatives. In the case of Weber State University, the Commission requested that the institution prepare a focused interim report and host a Commission representative in spring 2007 to address Recommendations 1 and 2 of the fall 2004 Comprehensive Evaluation Report. For your convenience, a copy of the Recommendations from the evaluation report is enclosed.

We will write in fall 2006 regarding the spring 2007 focused interim report and visit.

In reaffirming accreditation, the Commission finds that Recommendations 1 and 2 of the fall 2004 Comprehensive Evaluation Report are areas where the University is substantially in compliance with Commission criteria, but in need of improvement.

In the unlikely event the Commission should conclude that an institution is in danger of being unable to fulfill its mission and goals or to continue to meet the eligibility requirements, standards or related policies for accreditation, the Commission reserves the right to request that the institution receive an evaluation committee for a special review.

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The Commission commends the University for the remarkably strong and coherent sense of mission among all the institution's constituents. Moreover, the Commission finds laudatory the institution's successful capital campaign which enabled the University to accomplish several mission driven goals. The Commission applauds the University for its progress over the last ten years in improving access to library resources and services. Lastly, the Commission commends the University for its facility planning, maintenance, and construction, which includes the addition of new buildings and improvements to various campus facilities, and programming and facility master planning of WSU Davis.

Again, congratulations on receiving this recognition. Please feel free to contact me regarding your thoughts on the comprehensive evaluation process, suggestions for improving the process and for any assistance we may provide your institution.

Best wishes for a rewarding year.

Sincerely,



Sandra E. Elman
Executive Director

SEE:pja

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Kathleen M. Lukken, Interim Provost
Dr. Richard E. Kendell, Commissioner and Chief Executive Officer, Utah System
of Higher Education

Comprehensive Evaluation Report
Fall 2004
Weber State University

Recommendations

1. The Commission recommends that the institution regularly and systematically assess the general education curriculum and document that assessment activities lead to improvement. Based on evidence from faculty, students, administration, and the provided documentation, the Evaluation Committee was unable to verify regular and systematic assessment of the general education curriculum and that assessment activities have led to improvement (Standard 2.B and Policy 2.2 – *Educational Assessment*).

2. The Commission recommends that clearly articulated policies and procedures for evaluating part-time and adjunct faculty be developed, distributed, implemented, and assessed university-wide. The Commission additionally recommends that improvement be made in the mentoring of part-time faculty, as well as in expanding their professional development opportunities. The Evaluation Committee was unable to find sufficient evidence to verify that the institution systematically, regularly, and across all units fulfills its “obligation...to evaluate the performance” of part-time and adjunct faculty members; and was also unable to find evidence that the University provides for their development on a regular basis (Standard 4.A and Policy 4.1 – *Faculty Evaluation*).