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Mary Ellen Petrisko

July 8, 2016

Dr. John Derry
President
Hope International University
2500 E. Nutwood Ave
Fullerton, CA 92831

Dear President Derry:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning Hope International University (HIU) by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) at its meeting June 15-17, 2016. This action was taken after consideration of the report of the review team that conducted the Accreditation Visit to HIU March 9-11, 2016. The Commission also reviewed the institutional report and exhibits submitted by HIU prior to the Offsite Review (OSR), the supplemental materials requested by the team after the OSR, and the institution's May 4, 2016 response to the team report. The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the visit with you. Your comments were very helpful in informing the Commission's deliberations. The date of this action constitutes the effective date of the institution's new status with WSCUC.

Actions

1. Receive the Accreditation Visit team report
2. Reaffirm accreditation for a period of eight years
3. Schedule the next reaffirmation review with the Offsite Review in fall 2023 and the Accreditation Visit in spring 2024
4. Schedule the Mid-Cycle Review in spring 2020
5. Schedule a Progress Report to be submitted by November 1, 2017 to address the following:
 - a. Progress in collecting, disaggregating, and applying data that compare student success in online and on-ground programs (See Recommendations 1 and 4.)

Commendations

The Commission commends HIU in particular for the following:

1. The institution's commitment to the mission across the university at all levels including students, faculty, staff, administrators, and Board of Trustees

2. Its careful and purposeful steps in selecting and acquiring Nebraska Christian College and keeping the institution's mission in focus. The acquisition creates financial opportunity and potential for growth and expansion.
3. The institutional commitment to growing diversity of the student body, recognizing changing demographics, and the need for individualized attention to student success
4. The institution's deep commitment to fostering and providing opportunities for servant leadership
5. Its mature culture of assessment, which includes closing the loop, that is embedded at multiple levels of the institution.

Recommendations

The Commission identifies the following issues for further development:

1. Maintenance of efforts to monitor, measure, and modify online courses to ensure consistency of rigor, and include co-curricular activities that will provide an equivalent learning experience with on-ground courses and programs (CFRs 2.1, 2.3-2.5, 4.4)
2. Identification of the investments necessary to increase faculty and staff compensation, including restoring matching contributions to the employee retirement plan (CFRs 1.7, 3.2)
3. Creation and implementation of a plan for the allocation of resources and administrative support to alleviate overload of faculty and staff and encourage research and scholarship (CFRs 2.8, 3.2, 3.4)
4. Building institutional research capacity to monitor student success by using more extensive disaggregation and the comparison of online to on-ground courses and programs to ensure data-informed decision making. (CFRs 1.2, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3)

In taking this action to reaffirm accreditation, the Commission confirms that HIU 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 to the chair of HIU's governing board in one week. The Commission expects that the team report and this action letter will be posted in a readily accessible location on the HIU website and

widely distributed 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 HIU undertook in preparing for and supporting this accreditation review. WSCUC is committed to an accreditation process that adds value to institutions while contributing to public accountability, and we thank you 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

MEP/cno

Cc: William Ladusaw, Commission Chair
Paul Alexander, ALO
Thaddeus Yurek, Board Chair
Members of the Accreditation Visit team
Christopher Oberg, Vice President