

June 30, 2017

Dr. Robert Nelsen
President
California State University, Sacramento
6000 J. Street
Sacramento, CA 95819-6022

Dear Dr. Nelsen:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning California State University, Sacramento (CSUS) by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) at its meeting June 21 through 23, 2017. This action was taken after consideration of the report of the review team that conducted the Accreditation Visit to CSUS April 11 through 13, 2017. The Commission also reviewed the institutional report and exhibits submitted by CSUS prior to the Offsite Review (OSR), the supplemental materials requested by the team after the OSR and the institution's June 1, 2017 response to the team report. The Commission notes your continued work to enhance program review and general education assessment, to ensure consistency, reliability, and accuracy of data, and to ensure the Provost's office is appropriately staffed.

The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the visit with Dr. Ching-Hua Wang, Provost, Dr. Don Taylor, Vice President of Academic Affairs and ALO, and Ms. Jackie Donath, Professor. 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 ten years
3. Schedule the next reaffirmation review with the Offsite Review in Fall 2026 and the Accreditation Visit in Spring 2027
4. Schedule the Mid-Cycle Review in Spring 2022
5. Request a Progress Report to be submitted by May 1, 2020 to address progress on all recommendations cited below.

Commendations

The Commission commends CSUS in particular for the following:

1. The commitment the university has made to student success as its core mission.
2. The commitment the university has made to diversity and inclusion and a commitment to closing retention and graduation rate gaps for underserved and underrepresented students through the establishment of programs and services to

support these efforts.

3. The new leadership and the strong support it has garnered as well as being an agent of change that has catalyzed improvement in every area of the institution.
4. CSUS's leveraging of its location in the state capital to institute academic and co-curricular programs related to state government.
5. The honest and transparency with which the Self-study report was written, particularly about its challenges as well as the broad representation on the steering committee that helped developed the report.
6. The work the institution has put into the assessment of general education and program review.
7. The consultative and transparent nature of its budget process that is aligned with the strategic plan.
8. The high level of engagement and enthusiasm in the university community.
9. The Faculty Senate's new student success task force that will empower faculty voices.

Recommendations

The Commission identifies the following issues for further development:

1. Continued work to refine and improve the program review process including ensuring consistency in scheduling and engagement of external constituents. (CFR 2.7, 3.3, 4.1.)
2. Ensure that the provost has adequate staff to support her roles and responsibilities, including the hiring and development of faculty. (CFR 3.1, 3.2, 3.10.)
3. Continue to address student success through the active collaboration of the provost, deans, associate deans, department chairs, and the Faculty Senate. (CFR 2.2a, 2.3.)
4. Develop structures and processes to centralize data reporting systems to ensure consistency, accuracy, and accessibility of data for the entire campus community. (CFR 1.2, 2.10, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3.)
5. Continue to refine and implement a general education assessment plan that includes regular data collection, analysis, and implementation of recommendations. (CFR 2.2a, 2.3, 2.4, 2.6.)
6. Improve the university website in order to support campus efforts to improve student success. This includes the establishment of governance mechanisms and the dedication of resources for ongoing maintenance. (CFR 1.6, 2.12.)

In taking this action to reaffirm accreditation, the Commission confirms that CSUS 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 CSUS governing board in one week. A copy of this letter will also be sent to Chancellor White. The Commission expects that the team report and this action letter will be posted in a readily accessible location on the CSUS 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 CSUS 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/ thh

Cc: William A. Ladusaw, Commission Chair
Donald Taylor, ALO
Rebecca D. Eisen, Board Chair
Timothy P. White
Members of the Accreditation Visit team
Tamela H. Hawley, Vice President