

July 20, 2018

Fr. Marco Durazo
Rector/President
St. John's Seminary
5012 Seminary Road
Camarillo, CA 93012-2598

Dear Rector/President Durazo:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning St. John's Seminary (SJS) by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) at its meeting June 27-29, 2018. This action was taken after consideration of the report of the review team that conducted the Accreditation Visit to SJS March 20-22, 2018. The Commission also reviewed the institutional report and exhibits submitted by SJS prior to the Offsite Review (OSR), and the supplemental materials requested by the team after the OSR. The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the visit with you, and your colleagues: Dan Schwala, Board Chair; Jackie Rotter, Finance Director; Anthony Lilles, Academic Dean/Accreditation Liaison Officer; and Marc Trudeau, former Rector/President. 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 2025 and the Accreditation Visit in spring 2026
4. Schedule the Mid-Cycle Review for May 1, 2022
5. Schedule an Interim Report to be submitted by March 1, 2021 to address all recommendations in this Commission action letter

Commendations

The Commission commends SJS in particular for the following:

1. Integrating effectively the clarity of purpose and function of the MDiv degree with the demands of ordained ministry.
2. Strengthening the human development component in the institution's programs, including developing students' capacities for leadership, budget management, and personnel management.
3. Engaging CARA data from the first five years after a student's graduation. The institution is acquiring significant qualitative data about its graduates from laypeople

and clergy, as well as information from the new priests about their personal levels of satisfaction.

4. Developing rubrics for the academic programs and procedures for assessing program learning outcomes with the strong support of faculty. In particular, the faculty and administration show a commitment to collecting data and using it for program improvement.
5. Diversifying sources of financial support and increasing enrollment and philanthropic efforts, providing additional resources for operations.
6. Demonstrating an exceptionally strong sense of commitment, community, and common purpose among the faculty, and between faculty and administration. The academic leadership is widely respected and credited for its contribution to an increasing emphasis on quality.
7. Drawing on the Catholic intellectual tradition to offer an integrated curriculum that affords graduates a strong basis for holistic ministry.

Recommendations

The Commission requires the institution to respond to the following issues:

1. Complete the approval, implementation, and assessment of MDiv program learning outcomes. (CFR 1.2, 2.3)
2. Align individual course learning outcomes with MDiv program learning outcomes, collect evidence of student performance, and revise curriculum in response. (CFR 2.7, 2.10, 4.1)
3. Formulate measurable learning outcomes for the pre-theology program and a curriculum map that indicates alignment across these courses. (CFR 2.6)
4. Incorporate issues of cultural context and intercultural competence in classroom pedagogy and course content, for example in systematic and historical courses, in addition to the current focus on these skills in field placements and internships. (CFR 1.4)
5. Develop peer observation and other forms of collegial support for continuing pedagogical improvement, as well as administrative support for faculty development. (CFR 3.3)
6. Strengthen shared governance, including consultation in the areas of faculty hiring, academic budgeting, and academic strategic planning. (CFR 3.10, 4.6) Formally approve and implement a current faculty handbook containing faculty policies and

procedures. (CFR 3.2)

7. Develop a campus master plan that supports the strategic plan, based on an assessment of the condition of the current facilities and on plans for future development of the campus. (CFR 3.5)
8. Develop an endowment policy that clearly identifies spending priorities and appropriate uses of investment returns. (CFR 1.7, 3.4)

In taking this action to reaffirm accreditation, the Commission confirms that SJS 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 the SJS 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 SJS 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 SJS 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,



Jamiene S. Studley
President

JSS/do

Cc: Reed Dasenbrock, Commission Chair
Anthony Lilles, ALO
Daniel Schwala, Board Chair
Members of the Accreditation Visit team
Richard Osborn, Vice President