

February 26, 2020

Dr. Jack Paduntin
President
Pacific Oaks College
45 Eureka Street
Pasadena, CA 91103

Dear President Paduntin:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning Pacific Oaks College (POC) by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) at its meeting February 14, 2020. This action was taken after consideration of the report of the review team that conducted the Special Visit to POC October 22-25, 2019. The Commission also reviewed the institutional report and exhibits submitted by POC prior to the Special Visit and the institution's December 9, 2019 response to the team report. The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the visit with you, and your colleagues Dr. Bree Cook, VP and ALO, Dave Crafts, Dean of Students, and Marcia Bankirer, Dean, San Jose Campus. Your comments were very helpful in informing the Commission's deliberations. The date of this action constitutes the effective date of the institution's status with WSCUC.

Actions

1. Receive the Special Visit team report that focused on: 1) more clearly articulated, mapped, and assessed WSCUC core competencies; 2) a comprehensive system for assessment of student learning, both at the program and institutional level; 3) continued inclusion of faculty voice and full participation in the shared governance of the college; 4) increased number of professionally qualified faculty and clarification of faculty FTE and faculty-student ratio computation; 5) continued progress in the use of graduation and retention data for curricular change and student support; 6) continued monitoring of the financial support provided by TCSES and Pacific Oaks' own independent financial strength and sustainability; 7) strengthened financial viability and staffing stability of the college; and 8) a strategic plan that is broadly inclusive of all stakeholders and incorporates an assessment framework.
2. Continue with the previously scheduled reaffirmation review with the Offsite Review in fall 2023 and the Accreditation Visit in spring 2024
3. Schedule an Interim Report to be submitted by November 1, 2021 to address all five recommendations in this letter.

The Commission commends POC in particular for the following:

1. Fostering faculty commitment to PO's mission, pedagogy, student learning, and success.
2. Developing an assessment infrastructure, including aligning student learning outcomes at the institutional, program, and course levels and mapping the core competencies to program learning outcomes.

3. Strengthening PO's financial position through diversification of revenue sources.
4. Purchasing and making extensive capital improvements to the main campus.
5. Effectively using management service support.

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

1. That faculty continue to develop learning outcomes assessment and use the results to improve student learning, including research based best-practices in cross-faculty calibration in the scoring of signature assignments. (CFR 2.3 and 2.4).
2. That the college continue to commit resources to manage, analyze, and disaggregate data to track and improve student success (CFR 2.7, 2.10, and 4.1).
3. That the college monitor the growth of the online programs to ensure quality consistent with PO's mission and measures of student success (CFR 2.12, 2.13, and 4.4).
4. That the college develop and apply procedures to evaluate its adjunct faculty on a regular basis to ensure the quality of their educational programs (CFR 2.1, 3.1, and 3.2).
5. That the strategic planning process continues to mature, incorporating and refining metrics and indicators of success (CFR 4.6).

In accordance with Commission policy, a copy of this letter will be sent to the chair of POC's governing board. The Commission expects that the team report and this action letter will be posted in a readily accessible location on the POC's 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 POC 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,



Jamienna S. Studley
President

JSS/thh

Cc: Reed Dasenbrock, Commission Chair
Bree Cook, ALO
Fred Marcus, Board Chair
Members of the Special Visit team
Tamela Hawley, Vice President