

July 12, 2019

Dr. John Scaringe
President
Southern California University of Health Sciences
16200 East Amber Valley Drive
Whittier, CA 90604

Dear President Scaringe:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning Southern California University of Health Sciences (SCUHS) by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) at its meeting June 28, 2019. This action was taken after consideration of the report of the review team that conducted the Special Visit to SCUHS March 26-29, 2019. The Commission also reviewed the institutional report and exhibits submitted by SCUHS prior to the Special Visit and the institution's May 31, 2019 response to the team report. The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the visit with you and your colleagues Tom Arendt, Vice President of Administration and Finance, and Taiwo Ande, Dean of Institutional Effectiveness and ALO. Your comments were very helpful in informing the Commission's deliberations. The date of this action constitutes the effective date of the institution's current status with WSCUC.

Actions

1. Receive the Special Visit team report that focused on: (1) financial sustainability; (2) program review; and (3) professional accreditation of two degree programs
2. Continue with the previously scheduled Mid-Cycle Review to begin May 1, 2020
3. Continue with the previously scheduled reaffirmation review with the Offsite Review in fall 2022 and the Accreditation Visit in spring 2023
4. Schedule an Interim Report to be submitted by March 1, 2021 to address:
 - a. Financial sustainability
 - i. Alignment of revenue with operating needs and expenses
 - ii. Adjustments in marketing and recruiting to optimize enrollment
 - iii. Improvements in business processes that can boost efficiency
 - iv. Diversification of revenue streams
 - v. Please submit audited reports for FY18-19 and FY 19-20; most recent accounting projection for the full year compared to original budget for FY 20-21 and an explanation of significant variances; revenue disaggregated by source; and enrollment levels disaggregated by term and program for the most recent three years
 - b. Program review
 - i. Development and use of additional materials, worksheets, and templates to support the review process

- ii. Clarification of the relationship between the professional accreditation process for degree programs and institutional program review
- iii. Adherence to established program review schedule
- iv. Please submit two completed program review reports

The Commission commends Southern California University of Health Sciences in particular for the following:

1. Cultivating an educational model of team-based, collaborative care that prepares students for integrative health practice.
2. Launching a Physician Assistant program that advances the institution's mission, expands the university's portfolio of integrative healthcare programs, and enhances financial performance.
3. Addressing the issues raised by the Council on Chiropractic Education and the California Acupuncture Board as well as achieving professional accreditation for the Doctor of Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine degree.
4. Establishing the infrastructure for a program review process that includes a longitudinal evaluation of indicators of educational effectiveness and incorporates reflection and action planning.
5. Recognizing the urgent need to identify a pathway to financial sustainability and actively investigating a wide range of strategies to achieve this goal.

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

1. Achieve financial stability by: (CFR 3.4)
 - a. Aligning revenue flows with operating needs and expenses;
 - b. Optimizing enrollment by continuing to adjust marketing and recruiting processes;
 - c. Continuing to explore, develop, and implement improvements in business processes that are intended to boost efficiency; and
 - d. Continuing to diversify revenue streams by using newly established outreach programs to expand relationships with alumni and community members, improve Board of Regents contributions, and seek extramural funds from foundation and government sources. The Commission appreciated hearing about the new genome institute and new partnerships to offer continuing education.

2. Implement the program review process by: (CFRs 2.7, 4.1, 4.3)
 - a. Developing and applying additional worksheets, definitions, guides, and templates to support the review process;
 - b. Clarifying the relationship between the professional accreditation process and institutional program review to minimize duplication of efforts; and
 - c. Adhering to the established program review schedule. The Commission appreciated hearing about Program 360, which will undertake a comprehensive review of all programs focusing on quality, innovation, marketability, and relevance.

In accordance with Commission policy, a copy of this letter will be sent to the chair of SCUHS's governing board. The Commission expects that the team report and this action letter will be posted in a readily accessible location on the Southern California University of Health Science'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 Southern California University of Health Sciences 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/bgd

Cc: Reed Dasenbrock, Commission Chair
Taiwo Ande, ALO
Thomas Bakman, Board Chair
Members of the Special Visit team
Barbara Gross Davis, Vice President