

February 26, 2020

Mr. Jack Miller
President
Pacific College of Health and Science
7445 Mission Valley Road, Suite 105
San Diego, CA 92108

Dear President Miller:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning Pacific College of Health and Science (PCHS) 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 Accreditation Visit to PCHS September 18-20, 2019. The Commission also reviewed the institutional report and exhibits submitted by PCHS 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 Dr. Stacy Gomes, Vice President of Academic Affairs, and Kevin Jarred, Director of Institutional Research. 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 spring 2027 and the Accreditation Visit in fall 2027
4. Schedule the Mid-Cycle Review to begin May 1, 2024
5. Schedule a Special Visit in spring 2023 to address:
 - a. Ensuring that learning experiences across campuses are consistent, providing sufficient faculty support and training in using a variety of instructional methods, including the instructional design of online courses. (CFRs 2.1, 3.3)
 - b. Engaging faculty and staff to develop and assess more rigorous institutional learning outcomes (ILOs) which are aligned with PCHS's mission and programmatic and course learning outcomes. (CFRs 2.4, 4.3, and 4.4)
 - c. Engaging faculty in a process to calibrate the rigor of the doctoral program to ensure equivalency with comparable doctoral programs at peer institutions. (CFR 2.2b)
 - d. Implementing the assessment plan connecting, analyzing and using student outcomes data to improve student learning and program quality. (CFRs 2.3, 2.4, 4.3, and 4.4)
 - e. Conducting a comprehensive program review for all degree programs for program quality assurance and improvement and to inform planning and

budgeting. The WSCUC “Program Review Resource Guide” can be a good reference document. (CFRs 2.7, 4.2, and 4.6)

- f. Engaging multiple constituencies, including the governing board, faculty, staff, and others, in institutional reflection, planning, and decision-making processes that are based on examination of data and evidence. (CFRs 4.1, 4.2, 4.6)

The Commission commends PCHS in particular for the following:

1. The staff and faculty of PCHS embrace the mission with passion and dedication and are committed to supporting the students.
2. PCHS is a leader in the field of integrative medicine with its doctoral degree in Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.
3. PCHS has been thoughtful in identifying programmatic needs that further its mission and serve the public.
4. The faculty are to be commended for ownership of professional development and faculty governance with limited resources.
5. The Board of Trustees demonstrates a deep commitment to students’ experiences, is responsive to the shifting higher education landscape, and has a depth and breadth of expertise that serves the mission of the institution.
6. PCHS supports the Institutional Research department and provides resources for data gathering and display.

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

1. Ensure that the learning environment across PCHS locations is consistent and that the locations are provided sufficient faculty support and training in using diverse instructional methods, including the instructional design of online courses. (CFRs 2.1, 3.3)
2. Engaging faculty and staff to develop and assess more rigorous institutional learning outcomes (ILOs) which are aligned with PCHS’s mission and programmatic and course learning outcomes. (CFRs 2.4, 4.3, 4.4)
3. Engage faculty in a process to calibrate the rigor of the doctoral program to ensure equivalency with comparable doctoral programs at peer institutions. (CFR 2.2b)
4. Implement the assessment plan; collecting, analyzing and utilizing student outcomes data to improve student learning and program quality. (CFRs 2.3, 2.4, 4.3, 4.4)
5. Ensure that comprehensive program review is conducted for all degree programs to ensure quality, improvement and rigor and to inform planning and budgeting. The WSCUC “Program Review Resource Guide” can be a good reference document. (CFRs 2.7, 4.2, 4.6)
6. Create a culture of transparency by increasing communication throughout the institution and ensuring trust among stakeholders. (CFRs 1.7, 3.4, 3.6, 3.7)
7. Engage faculty and staff in governance and decision-making. (CFRs 3.7, 3.10, 4.6)
8. Define and actively support faculty scholarship and creativity by providing resources, opportunities and recognition for faculty scholarship. (CFRs 2.8, 3.2)
9. Establish practices to use data for decision-making across the institution to

- inform program review, planning and budgeting. (CFRs 4.1, 4.2)
10. Engage multiple constituencies, including the governing board, faculty, staff, and others in institutional reflection and strategic planning processes that are based on the examination of data and evidence. (CFR 4.6)

In taking this action to reaffirm accreditation, the Commission confirms that PCHS has addressed the three Core Commitments and has successfully completed the two-stage institutional review process conducted under the 2013 Standards of Accreditation. In keeping with WSCUC values, PCHS should strive for ongoing improvement with adherence to all Standards of Accreditation and their associated CFRs to foster a learning environment that continuously strives for educational excellence and operational effectiveness.

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

Cc: Reed Dasenbrock, Commission Chair
Stacy Gomes, ALO
Daniel Neuwirth, Board Chair
Members of the Accreditation Visit team
Tamela Hawley, Vice President