

July 12, 2019

Mr. Peter Dybwad
President
The Wright Institute
2728 Durant Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94704

Dear President Dybwad:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning The Wright Institute (TWI) 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 Accreditation Visit to The Wright Institute March 4-7, 2019. The Commission also reviewed the institutional report and exhibits submitted by The Wright Institute prior to the Offsite Review (OSR), the supplemental materials requested by the team after the OSR, and the institution's April 30, 2019 response to the team report. The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the visit with you and your colleague Gilbert Newman, Vice President for Academic Affairs. 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 2026 and the Accreditation Visit in spring 2027
4. Schedule the Mid-Cycle Review to begin May 1, 2023
5. Schedule an Interim Report to be submitted by November 1, 2022 to address all recommendations in this letter

The Commission commends The Wright Institute in particular for the following:

1. Living out its mission and institutional goals.
2. Adopting a student-centered educational pedagogy that emphasizes faculty-student relationships in support of student success.
3. Faculty who are clearly engaged and passionate about the academic success and personal and professional well-being of their students within an institutional setting that offers many benefits of a small, individualized education. It is impressive to observe the degree to which faculty members use experience, networks, and external resources in their support of students.
4. A collaborative culture that reflects mutually supportive relationships among the Board, administration, faculty, staff and students, which serves the best interests of the students.

5. A Doctor of Psychology (Psy.D.) in Clinical Psychology degree program deemed to be of such quality by the American Psychological Association as to warrant a grant of 10-year reaffirmation of accreditation.
6. Acquiring a new and spacious facility to house the well-respected Counseling Program, which allows space for additional programmatic possibilities.
7. Audited financial statements, which reflect a financially well-managed institution.

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

1. Continue in the maturation of assessment activities, with a particular commitment to improvements in data retrieval, review, interpretation, analysis, and more effective and efficient evidence-based decision making in support of improved student outcomes and achievement of institutional goals (CFR 1.2, 2.6, 4.1).
2. Continue with efforts to identify key outcome measures of student success across both programs, including persistence, completion, licensure-passage rates, and placement, and commit to improving those outcomes over time (CFR 1.2, 4.1, 4.4).
3. Evaluate human resources and staffing models at all levels to ensure sufficiency of staff in support of identified goals (CFR 3.1, 3.2, 3.5).
4. Advance the institutional culture in support of diversity, inclusion, and equity, including an assessment about how staffing at all levels of the organization reflects the diversity to which the institution aspires, and communicate progress of diversity-related initiatives regularly throughout the organization (CFR 1.4).
5. Formalize and document policies, practices, procedures, processes, meetings, and committee charters in support of memorializing institutional history and to facilitate future planning and decision-making (3.7).
6. Fully implement the 2015 WSCUC recommendation that TWI develop an institutional planning model that explicitly examines sustainability, and integrates academic enrollment and financial tracking, resources, deliverables, and timelines for the whole of the institution into a robust, overarching, institutional strategic plan (CFR 3.4, 4.6, 4.7).

In taking this action to reaffirm accreditation, the Commission confirms that The Wright Institute 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, The Wright Institute 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 The Wright Institute's governing board. The Commission expects that the team report and this action letter will be posted in a readily accessible location on the The Wright Institute'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 The Wright Institute 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,



Jamienne S. Studley
President

JSS/ mbg

Cc: Reed Dasenbrock, Commission Chair
Gilbert Newman, ALO
Daniel Goldstine, Board Chair
Members of the Accreditation Visit team
Mark Goor, Vice President