

March 9, 2018

Mr. David Faigman
Chancellor and Dean
University of California Hastings College of Law
200 McAllister Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Chancellor Faigman:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning University of California Hastings College of Law (UCH) by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) at its meeting February 16, 2018. This action was taken after consideration of the report of the review team that conducted the Accreditation Visit to UCH October 16-19, 2018. The Commission also reviewed the institutional report and exhibits submitted by UCH prior to the Offsite Review (OSR), the supplemental materials requested by the team after the OSR, and the institution's December 12, 2017 response to the team report. The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the visit with you and Andrea Bing, Director of Accreditation & Assessment and Title IX Coordinator. 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 2025 and the Accreditation Visit in fall 2025
4. Schedule the Mid-Cycle Review for May 1, 2022
5. Schedule an Interim Report to be submitted by March 1, 2020 to address:
 - a. New leadership's vision translated into a long-term strategic plan
 - b. Program review of the JD program
 - c. Program reviews of the LLM, MSL, and HPL programs
 - d. Update on institutional research capacity

Commendations

The Commission commends UCH in particular for the following:

1. A strong faculty and staff who are committed to meeting the institution's mission and to providing the best legal education possible. The commitment to serving a diverse student body is evident from conversation with almost everyone with whom the visiting team spoke. (CFRs 1.1 and 4.6)
2. The exciting new visionary senior leadership and Chancellor/Dean in place. The

- Chancellor/Dean has a very compelling vision, which includes strategic partnerships with other institutions and the information technology industry. (CFRs 3.6 and 3.7)
3. A committed and involved Board who are engaging in their own professional Board development. Board members participate in AGB professional development activities and use AGB materials. (CFR 3.9)
 4. While a stand-alone law school, beginning to capitalize on the rich academic environment of the Bay Area for partnerships, such as the Health Policy and Law program with UCSF. (CFRs 1.1 and 2.1)
 5. The development and assessment of co-curricular activities related to career development. (CFRs 2.11 and 2.13)

Recommendations

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

1. The previous (2011) strategic plan has served UCH well, particularly through difficult times and planned enrollment decreases. The institution should develop a new plan that actualizes the vision of the current chancellor and connects to the long-range facility master plan. (CFR 4.6)
2. As part of the JD program review, an external review of the program was commissioned. It is important that UCH carefully consider the recommendations of the external reviewer. The administration should work with the faculty to implement these recommendations, as appropriate. (CFR 4.1)
3. Establishment of learning objectives and assessment of courses is underway, but program assessment is still in an early stage. The first JD review has been completed. The next steps in the process of continuous improvement call for taking what is learned, making indicated changes, and monitoring the outcome. (CFRs 4.4, 2.11, and 2.7)
4. The LLM, MSL, and HPL programs need to undergo periodic program review. (CFR 2.3;2.7)
5. The organizational structure should be reviewed with the goal to improve communication within the institution. (CFRs 3.7 and 3.8)
6. Develop infrastructure that permits coordination among the disparate institutional research functions. (CFR 4.2)
7. It is acknowledged that bar passage rates are important to UCH, and the team recommends that the institution build institutional research capacity to track and analyze data relevant to this outcome as part of its continuous review process. (CFRs 4.1, 4.2, and 4.4)

In taking this action to reaffirm accreditation, the Commission confirms that University of California Hastings College of Law 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 University of California Hastings College of Law governing board in one week. A copy of this letter will also be sent to President Napolitano. The Commission expects that the team report and this action letter will be posted in a readily accessible location on the University of California Hastings College of Law 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 University of California Hastings College of Law 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/thh

Cc: Reed Dasenbrock, Commission Chair
Andrea Bing, ALO
Thomas Gede, Board Chair
Janet Napolitano, President, University of California
Members of the Accreditation Visit team
Tamela H. Hawley, Vice President