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July 12, 2019

Edward Ray  
President  
Oregon State University  
624 Kerr Administration Building  
Corvallis, OR 97331

Dear President Ray:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) at its meeting on June 19-21, 2019, concerning the Spring 2019 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Evaluation of Oregon State University. This action was taken after consideration of evidence, including the institution's Self-Evaluation Report, the Peer-Evaluation Report, the optional Institutional Response to the Peer-Evaluation Report, and information received as part of the institutional representative meeting with Commissioners.

#### **Accreditation**

- Reaffirm Accreditation

#### **Status of Previous Recommendations Addressed in this Evaluation**

- Recommendation 1: Spring 2014 Mid-Cycle Review - *Fulfilled*

#### **Commendations**

The Commission commends Oregon State University for:

- The design of its websites, which makes it particularly easy and intuitive for prospective students and others to find needed information.
- Taking steps to allocate substantial resources to address needed repair and renovation of facilities on the Corvallis Campus.
- Developing a robust culture of planning, including regular strategic planning and well-integrated planning for multiple levels and time periods.
- Its comprehensive planning to improve student success and on its numerous initiatives to provide strong academic support and positive out-of-class living and learning experiences, which are increasing retention and graduation rates even as enrollment has grown and diversified.

- Its commitment to the Land Grant mission of providing broad access to educational opportunities for individuals from all backgrounds, including development of quality online courses and programs; educational outreach to underserved communities; the use of Extension facilities and services to reach across the State of Oregon; and collaborations with communities and community colleges.

### **Recommendations Substantially in Compliance but in Need of Improvement**

1. The Evaluator Committee recommends that Oregon State University identifies indicators of achievement that form a more meaningful basis for evaluating the accomplishment of its objectives. (1.B.2)
2. As Oregon State University expands its Ecampus, Cascades Campus, and other extended sites, the evaluator committee recommends that the university continues to exercise great care that credit and degrees, wherever offered and however delivered, are based on documented student achievement of the established Oregon State University learning outcomes. (2.C.3)
3. The Evaluator Committee recommends that results of core theme assessments, particularly student learning outcomes assessment, are more consistently used for improvement by informing planning, decision-making, and allocation of resources and capacity. The committee further recommends that student learning outcomes assessment results are made available to constituencies outside Oregon State University in a timely manner. (4.B.1 and 4.B.2)

### **Required Follow-Up**

- Mission and Core Themes with Addendum Fall 2020
  - Recommendation 1: Spring 2019 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability
- Progress Report Fall 2020
  - Recommendation 2: Spring 2019 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability
  - Recommendation 3: Spring 2019 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability
- Mid-Cycle Review with Addendum Spring 2022
  - Recommendation 2: Spring 2019 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability
  - Recommendation 3: Spring 2019 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability

### **Future Evaluations**

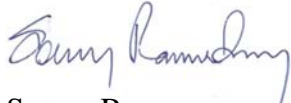
- Mission and Core Themes Fall 2020
  - Recommendation 1: Spring 2019 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability
- Progress Report Fall 2020
  - Recommendation 2: Spring 2019 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability
  - Recommendation 3: Spring 2019 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability
- Mission and Core Themes Fall 2020
- Mid-Cycle Review Spring 2022
  - Recommendation 2: Spring 2019 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability
  - Recommendation 3: Spring 2019 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability
- Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Evaluation Spring 2026

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NWCCU 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. If you have questions about any of the information in this letter, please contact your staff liaison, Senior Vice President Les Steele.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sonny Ramaswamy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sonny" being more prominent.

Sonny Ramaswamy

President

SR:rb

cc: Susan Capalbo, Accreditation Liaison Officer  
Dr. Susan Henrichs, Spring 2019 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability, Committee  
Chair