



July 10, 2019

Debra Thatcher  
President  
Umpqua Community College  
1140 Umpqua College Road  
Roseburg, OR 97470

Dear President Thatcher:

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 Mid-Cycle Evaluation of Umpqua Community College. 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 Action**

- Accept the report
- Issue **Warning** on Recommendations 1 and 3 of the Spring 2019 Mid-Cycle Peer Evaluation Report based upon Eligibility Requirement 23, and Standards 2.C.5, 2.C.9, 2.C.10, 2.C.11, 3.B.3, 4.A.1, 4.A.3, 4.B.1, 4.B.2, and 5.A.2

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

- Recommendation 1: Spring 2016 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability - continued as Recommendation 1 of the Spring 2019 Mid-Cycle Peer-Evaluation Report - *Non-Compliant*
- Recommendation 3: Spring 2016 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability - continued as Recommendation 2 of the Spring 2019 Mid-Cycle Peer-Evaluation Report - *Needs Improvement*
- Recommendation 7: Spring 2016 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability - Continued as Recommendation 3 of the Spring 2019 Mid-Cycle Peer-Evaluation Report - *Non-Compliant*

#### **Recommendations Out of Compliance**

The Commission finds that the following Recommendations are areas where Umpqua Community College is out of compliance with the NWCCU Standards for Accreditation. According to U.S. Department of Education Regulation 34 CFR 602.20 and Commission Policy, Commission Action Regarding Institutional Compliance Within Specified Period (enclosed), the Commission requires that Umpqua Community College take appropriate action to ensure these Recommendations are addressed and resolved in the prescribed two-year period.

The Commission recommends that Umpqua Community College:

1. Review its core theme indicators to ensure that they:

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- a. capture verifiable learning assessment results which form the basis for mission fulfillment evidence;
  - b. are used in a comprehensive institutional evaluation and planning process used to guide improvement decisions, allocate resources, and inform a mission fulfillment decision (3.B.3, 4.A.1, 4.B.1, 5.A.2)
3. Faculty and administration collaboratively develop and implement a systematic approach to assessing student learning, including institutional student learning outcomes, at the College, program, and course level. Such an approach should include:
- a. providing faculty with guidance in writing about how to assess student learning outcomes at the course, program, and college levels;
  - b. developing and implementing direct measures of student learning; and
  - c. developing and implementing reporting systems so that the results of the assessment of student learning at each level can be used to improve instruction (Eligibility Requirement 23, 2.C.5, 2.C.9, 2.C.10, 2.C.11, 4.A.3, 4.B.2)

**Recommendation in Need of Improvement:**

The Commission recommends that Umpqua Community College:

2. Further formulate and implement plans to increase institutional stability through effective leadership and a widely understood governance structure (Standard 2.A.1).

**Required Follow-Up**

- Ad Hoc Report without a visit Fall 2020
  - Recommendations 1, 2, and 3 of the Spring 2019 Mid-Cycle Peer-Evaluation Report

**Future Evaluations**

- Ad Hoc Report without a visit Fall 2020
  - Address Recommendations 1, 2, and 3 of the Spring 2019 Mid-Cycle Peer-Evaluation Report
- Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Spring 2023

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, Vice President Valerie Martinez.

Sincerely,



Sonny Ramaswamy  
President

SR:vm

cc: Kacy Crabtree, Accreditation Liaison Officer  
Bryce Humphreys, Spring 2019 Mid-Cycle Evaluation Committee, Committee Chair