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July 24, 2018

Fr. Stephen V. Sundborg, S.J.
President
Seattle University
901 12th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98122

Dear President Sundborg:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning the Spring 2018 Year Seven Evaluation of Seattle University by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) at its meeting on June 27-29, 2018. This action was taken after consideration of evidence, including the Institution's Self-Evaluation Report, the Peer-Evaluation Report, and information received as part of the institutional representative meeting with Commissioners.

Based on these materials and deliberations, the Commissioners took the following actions:

Accreditation

- Reaffirm Accreditation.

Status of Previous Recommendations Addressed in this Evaluation

- Recommendation 1 of the Spring 2013 Year Three Peer-Evaluation Report is continued as Recommendation 1 of the Spring 2018 Year Seven Peer-Evaluation Report.
- Recommendation 3 of the Spring 2013 Year Three Peer-Evaluation Report is continued as Recommendation 2 of the Spring 2018 Year Seven Peer-Evaluation Report.

Recommendations: Spring 2018 Year Seven Evaluation In Need of Improvement

The Commission recommends that the University:

1. Strengthen the formal infrastructure of shared governance at Seattle University by clear and appropriate designations of roles and responsibilities in decision-making processes and assess its shared governance infrastructure to ensure its effectiveness across all constituencies (2.A.1; 4.A.5; 4.A.6).
2. Develop better linkage among mission, core themes, and strategic planning (3.A.3; 3.B.1; 5.A.1; 5.B.1).
3. Review the indicators selected to assess performance of the objectives for each core theme to ensure they provide meaningful measures of achievement related directly to each objective (1.B.2 and 4.A.1).

Required Follow-Up

- Address Recommendation 1 of the Spring 2018 Year Seven Peer-Evaluation Report in an Ad Hoc Report without a visit in Fall 2019.
- Address Recommendations 2 and 3 of the Spring 2018 Year Seven Peer-Evaluation Report in an addendum to the Fall 2019 Mission and Core Themes Report.

Commendations: Spring 2018 Year Seven Evaluation

The Commission commends Seattle University in particular for the following:

1. Its articulation and manifestation of the Jesuit mission and its values as evidenced by the Board of Trustees, administration, faculty, and staff's commitment to caring for the whole person through its core themes, opportunities for service-learning, attention to vocational discernment, and focus on global awareness that is infused into its students' educational programs.
2. The Core Curriculum. Of particular note are the close integration with the Jesuit educational mission, the swift and efficient way in which problems are addressed (e.g., incorporating reflection across all modules), and the initiative shown supporting the teaching of faculty members in the program (e.g., the Core Writing Fellows Program).
3. The Partnership at Lemieux Library and McGoldrick Learning Commons. The collaborative work between the Media Production Center and Research and Information Services from the library along with the Writing Center, the Learning Assistance Programs and the Math Lab demonstrate the University's dedication to enhancing transformational education.
4. The environmental sustainability as evidenced by its many initiatives including its attention to its buildings that meet the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Silver standard; focus on alternative transportation and walkability; its urban tree canopy, and commitment to reducing waste.

Future Evaluations

- Ad Hoc Report in Fall 2019 without a visit to address Recommendation 1 of the Spring 2018 Year Seven Peer-Evaluation Report.
- Mission and Core Themes Report in Fall 2019 to include an Addendum to address Recommendations 2 and 3 of the Spring 2018 Year Seven Peer-Evaluation Report.
- Mid-Cycle Self-Evaluation and visit in Spring 2021.
- Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Self-Evaluation and visit in Spring 2025.

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 NWCCU.

Sincerely,



Sonny Ramaswamy
President

SR:rb

cc: Dr. Bob Duniway, Accreditation Liaison Officer
Nicole W. Piasecki, Chair, Seattle University Board of Trustees
Dr. Elizabeth C. Reilly, Spring 2018 Year Seven Peer-Evaluation Committee Chair