WASC | Senior College and University Commission

March 6, 2024

Dr. Vanya Quinones
President
California State University, Monterey Bay
100 Campus Center
Seaside, CA 93955-8001

Dear President Quinones:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) at its meeting February 16, 2024. This action was taken after consideration of the report of the review team that conducted the Special Visit to California State University, Monterey Bay October 18-20, 2023 using the 2013 Standards of Accreditation. The Commission also reviewed the institutional report and exhibits submitted by California State University, Monterey Bay prior to the Special Visit and the institution's January 3, 2024 response to the team report. The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the visit with you and your colleague Dale Grubb, Associate Provost and ALO. Your comments were very helpful in informing the Commission's deliberations. The date of this action constitutes the effective date of the institution's status with WSCUC.

Actions

1. Receive the Special Visit team report that focused on: (1) recruitment, hiring and inclusion of more diverse faculty and staff; (2) integration of elements into the Strategic Plan; and (3) improved student advising.
2. Continue to the scheduled Offsite Review in fall 2028 and the Accreditation Visit in spring 2029.
3. Schedule a Progress Report to be submitted on November 1, 2026 to address:
    a. the new budget model and
    b. enrollment growth.

Commendations

The Commission commends the institution for:

1. Campus-wide engagement in the President's Opportunities and Priorities.
2. Significant improvement in student advising, including advisor to student ratios and plans in place for ongoing improvements.
3. Strengthening co-governance with the formation of the staff council.
4. Expanding Employee Affinity groups and fostering their collaboration to provide support, a sense of belonging, and community.
5. The campus-wide engagement in working toward Inclusive Excellence.

6. Establishing a broadly representative campus-wide university budget committee focused on transparency and a multi-year budget model.

Areas for Development

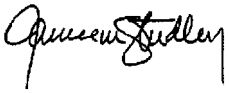
The Commission requires the institution to respond to the following areas for development:

1. Continue the development of the Modified Responsibility Centered Management budget model to full implementation which includes broad communication and evaluation. (CFR 3.4)
2. Assess the effectiveness of advising, including the integration of technology into practices. (CFR 2.13)
3. Assess the multiple efforts to achieve the institution's goals to improve and enhance the recruitment and retention of a diverse faculty and staff (CFR 3.1).

In accordance with Commission policy, a copy of this letter is being sent to the chair of the California State University system board. A copy of this letter is also being sent to Chancellor Mildred Garcia. The Commission expects that the team report and this action letter will be posted in a readily accessible location on the California State University, Monterey Bay'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 California State University, Monterey Bay 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: Tracy Poon Tambascia, Commission Chair
Dr. Dale Grubb, ALO
Wenda Fong, Board Chair
CSU Chancellor Mildred Garcia
Members of the Accreditation Visit Team
Mark B. Goor, Vice President