WSC Senior College and University Commission

July 12, 2019

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

Dear President Ochoa:

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 June 28, 2019. This action was taken after consideration of the report of the review team that conducted the Accreditation Visit to California State University, Monterey Bay March 26-29, 2019. The Commission also reviewed the institutional report and exhibits submitted by California State University, Monterey Bay prior to the Offsite Review (OSR), the supplemental materials requested by the team after the OSR, and the institution's May 22, 2019 response to the team report. The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the visit with you and your colleagues Frances Horvath, Interim Provost, and Kris Roney, AVP Academic Programs and Dean of University College and Graduate Studies. 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 ten years
3. Schedule the next reaffirmation review with the Offsite Review in fall 2028 and the Accreditation Visit in spring 2029
4. Schedule the Mid-Cycle Review to begin May 1, 2024
5. Schedule aSpecial Visit in fall 2023 to address
    a. The process and progress for recruitment, hiring, and inclusion of more faculty and staff from diverse backgrounds.
    b. Progress in integrating resource allocation, enrollment management, new revenue streams, and achieving economies of scale into the new strategic planning process.
    c. Improvement in academic advising

The Commission commends California State University, Monterey Bay in particular for the following:

1. A highly engaged self-study procedure that identified key issues and accomplishments and an extraordinarily responsive process with targeted documentation and interviews aligned with Lines of Inquiry.

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2. For remarkable improvements in 6-year graduation rates as evidenced by a 16% increase in 6-year graduation rates since 2011, to a high of 53.4%.
3. The commitment to the development of the whole student in which academic and student affairs collaborate, the personal growth and counseling center, student disability resources, and support for students' basic needs.
4. A culture of innovation that has developed a physician's assistant program with community partnerships, a 3-year computer science degree, the recent culture or language requirement, 2+2 community college pathways on location, and the Otter Cross Cultural Center.
5. Its regional stewardship in offerings such as service learning and academic majors that respond to present and emerging workforce needs; in educational, nonprofit, private and governmental partnerships; with philanthropic support and in leveraging the transformation of former Ft. Ord into a vibrant campus community committed to sustainability.
6. An effective and systematic assessment and reflection for program improvement; well-defined processes for program review reflective of the mission of the University; the redesign of the General Education curriculum, including math/statistics and written communication; and the collection, analysis, dissemination, and application of data.

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

1. Strengthen outreach and recruitment efforts for faculty, staff, and administrators to reflect diversity; increase efforts to support retention, enhanced development, and professional growth of a diverse faculty and staff; and better respond to the needs of its diverse students, faculty, and staff. (CFR 1.4, 3.1)
2. Support early career faculty development in their roles as researchers and scholars; and, provide a faculty development program for lecturers. (CFR 2.8, 3.3)
3. Leverage activities associated with its new strategic planning process to drive integrated resource allocation in alignment with mission to facilitate student enrollment growth, incentivize new revenue streams, and achieve economies of scale while meeting established metrics and targets. (CFR 3.4, 4.6, 4.7)
4. Enhance support for staff by providing increased training and professional development; reviewing and adjusting staffing levels; and including staff input as stakeholders in campus success. (CFR 3.1, 3.3)
5. Improve academic advising for all students. (CFR 2.3, 2.12)

In taking this action to reaffirm accreditation, the Commission confirms that California State University, Monterey Bay has addressed the three Core Commitments and has successfully completed the two-stage institutional review process conducted under the 2013 Standards of Accreditation. In keeping with WSCUC values, California State University, Monterey Bay should strive for ongoing improvement with adherence to all Standards of Accreditation and their associated CFRs to foster a learning environment that continuously strives for educational excellence and operational effectiveness.

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In accordance with Commission policy, a copy of this letter will be sent to the chair of California State University, Monterey Bay's governing board. A copy of this letter will also be sent to Chancellor White. 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: Reed Dasenbrock, Commission Chair
Frances Horvath, ALO
Adam Day, Board Chair
Timothy P. White, Chancellor
Members of the Accreditation Visit team
Mark Goor, Vice President

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