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July 12, 2019

Dr. Richard A. Caulfield
Chancellor
University of Alaska Southeast
11066 Auke Lake Way
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Chancellor Caulfield:

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 the University of Alaska Southeast. 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: Fall 2013 Mid-Cycle Review - *Fulfilled*

Commendations

The Commission commends the University of Alaska Southeast for:

1. The recognition and inclusion of Alaska Native language, art, history and individuals into its buildings, curriculum, and administration. The involvement of Elders and culture-bearers has created an extremely important connection between the Alaskan Native community and UAS's goal to be a place of cultural safety and equity.
2. Its warm and gracious hosting, as well as its robust participation in the accreditation process. Faculty, staff, and student forums were all standing-room only events in which many constituents shared their dedication to and appreciation for the university.
3. Its efforts and commitment to student retention and student success, particularly the efforts and commitment of the Student Success Committee. The creation of the Strategic Enrollment Plan and identification of student barriers of access is enabling a more efficient and operational framework to measure student needs and achievement.
4. Optimizing distance education opportunities across a vast geographical area. Students have access to strong programs of study and student services that support their educational goals. Additionally, students on all UAS campuses are provided with meaningful experiential learning opportunities in a variety of community-based settings.

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5. Its success at integrating three campus locations into one university with shared vision and values. The level of collaboration and consistent support among the three campuses is remarkable.

Recommendations Substantially in Compliance but in Need of Improvement

The Commission recommends that the University of Alaska Southeast:

1. Stabilize its administrative team and structure, as well as employ a sufficient number of qualified personnel, in order to fulfill its mission and achieve its strategic priorities (Standards 2.A.9; 2.B.1).
2. Expand on the strong progress made in the analysis and use of disaggregated demographic and learning outcomes data in order to support the evaluation of mission fulfillment (Standards 4.A.1; 4.A.6; 5.A.1).
3. Revise and refine its objectives and indicators to better inform its future planning and decision-making (Standards 5.B.1; 5.B.2).

Required Follow-Up

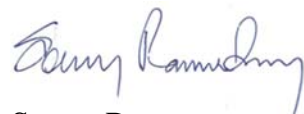
- Mid-Cycle Review Spring 2022 with an Addendum to address:
 - Recommendation 1: Spring 2019 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability
 - Recommendation 2: Spring 2019 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability
 - Recommendation 3: Spring 2019 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability

Future Evaluations

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

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 Mac Powell.

Sincerely,



Sonny Ramaswamy
President

SR:mp

cc: Dr. Karen Carey, Accreditation Liaison Officer
Dr. Nathan Lindsay, Spring 2019 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Committee
Chair