

March 4, 2019

Dr. Kim Wilcox
Chancellor
University of California, Riverside
900 University Ave.
Riverside, CA 92521-4009

Dear Chancellor Wilcox:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning University of California at Riverside (UC Riverside) by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) at its meeting February 22, 2019. This action was taken after consideration of the report of the review team that conducted the Accreditation Visit to UC Riverside on October 23-28, 2019. The Commission also reviewed the institutional report and exhibits submitted by UC Riverside prior to the Offsite Review (OSR), the supplemental materials requested by the team after the OSR, and the institution's February 4, 2019 response to the team report. The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the visit with you and your colleagues: Cynthia Larive, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor, Kenneth Baerenklau, Associate Provost and ALO, and Richard Cardullo, Professor of Biology and Director, University Honors. 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 eight years
3. Schedule the next reaffirmation review with the Offsite Review in spring 2026 and the Accreditation Visit in fall 2026
4. Schedule the Mid-Cycle Review to begin May 1, 2023
5. Schedule a Special Visit in spring 2022 to address (see also the issues to which the institution must respond, included in this letter):
 - a. An enhanced and expanded assessment initiative.
 - b. A stronger campus commitment to accreditation processes that promotes the relationship between accreditation reviews and such significant campus efforts as strategic planning and student achievement initiatives.
 - c. A modified budget model that embraces current challenges to campus success.
 - d. A re-calibrated Cash-Based Operating Performance Model.

The Commission commends UC Riverside in particular for the following:

1. The institution's values and extensive work to advance the public good. It is clear that institutional commitments to social mobility and diversity are deep-seated and impactful across the institution.
2. The institution's commitment to diversity as a core value. For students, success in providing access and closing achievement gaps for economically disadvantaged and under-represented students represents a concerted and successful campus-wide effort.
3. The institution's adherence to a strategic direction to become a stronger research university, as evidenced in the increases in the award of extra-mural funding.
4. The institution's significant and laudable improvements in degree completion and time-to-degree, including the narrowing and elimination of student achievement gaps.

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

For the Special Visit

1. Commence a strong and coherent assessment initiative to include both undergraduate and graduate programs, professional development for faculty and staff in assessment best practices, and appropriate allocation of financial and human resources capital. (CFRs 2.2-2.7; 4.1, 4.3, 4.4)
2. Develop a stronger and more meaningful campus commitment around accreditation that provides campus-wide understanding of the processes and expectations. (CFR 1.8)
3. Assure that the current activity to modify the campus budget model addresses issues that challenge campus success, including staffing, facilities, and the differential costs of varied instructional modalities. (CFRs 3.1, 3.4)
4. Review the multi-year "Cash-Based Operating Performance Model" provided in the institutional report to assure that revenue projections are realistic, and make modifications to expenditure projections as necessary. (CFR 3.4)

In taking this action to reaffirm accreditation, the Commission confirms that UC Riverside 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, UC Riverside 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.

In accordance with Commission policy, a copy of this letter will be sent to the chair of UC Riverside's governing board. A copy of this letter will also be sent to President Napolitano. The Commission expects that the team report and this action letter will be posted in a readily accessible location on the UC Riverside'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 UC Riverside 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,



Jamiene S. Studley
President

JSS/cno

Cc: Reed Dasenbrock Commission Chair
Kenneth Baerenklau, ALO
George Kieffer, Board Chair
Janet Napolitano, President
Members of the Accreditation Visit team
Christopher Oberg, Vice President