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July 27, 2017

Office of the President

AUG 1 - 2017

University of Oregon

Mr. Michael H. Schill
President and Professor of Law
University of Oregon
1226 University of Oregon
Eugene, OR 97403-1226

Dear President Schill: *Michael*

On behalf of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, I am pleased to inform you that the accreditation of the University of Oregon has been reaffirmed on the basis of the unique Spring 2017 Demonstration Project Year Seven *Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability* Evaluation which was expanded to address Recommendations 1, 2 and 3 of the Spring 2013 Year Three Peer-Evaluation Report. Congratulations on receiving this continued recognition.

The Commission determined that its expectations regarding Recommendation 3 of the Spring 2013 Year Three Peer-Evaluation Report have been met. However, the Commission determined that its expectations regarding Recommendations 1 and 2 of the Spring 2013 Year Three Peer-Evaluation Report have not yet been met. Therefore the Commission requests that the University of Oregon again address Recommendations 1 and 2 of the Spring 2013 Year Three Peer-Evaluation report as an addendum to the Spring 2018 *Mission and Core Themes* Report.

The Commission commends the visionary leadership of President Schill coupled with the steadfast, strategic coordination of the University's Demonstration Project Director Ron Bramhall for ensuring that the University of Oregon engaged in an intensive, deliberative evaluative process aimed at identifying meaningful and valuable means of focusing on the assessment of student learning outcomes in a complex, multifaceted research university. Moreover, the Commission wishes to express its appreciation to the University of Oregon for participating in the Demonstration Project and making a three year commitment to focusing on the assessment of student learning outcomes and general education as manifestations of mission fulfillment. The Commission anticipates that the findings and experience of undergoing this innovative, intensive accreditation evaluation will inform ongoing continuous improvement efforts at the University and as importantly be valuable to institutions with a similar scope and breadth of programs both in the Northwest and nationwide with the aim of enhancing the value and meaning of regional accreditation evaluations in the future.

In addition, the Commission commends the University of Oregon for utilizing NWCCU's Demonstration Project to advance its educational mission. Further, the Commission applauds the University's innovative human-centered design to build trust and social capital across campus to carry on the intense

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work of general education revision. Moreover, the Commission finds noteworthy the University's creation of the Teaching Academy and the Teaching Engagement program to support faculty and staff in their assessment of student learning outcomes.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

The Commission looks forward to your important participation at NWCCU's October 2017 Summit.

Best wishes for a rewarding 2017-2018 academic year.

Sincerely yours,



Sandra E. Elman
President

SEE:rb

cc: Dr. Ron C. Bramhall, Associate Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
Mr. Charles L. Triplett, Assistant Vice President for University Initiatives and Collaborations
Mr. Charles M. Lillis, Chair, Board of Trustees

Year Three *Resources and Capacity* Evaluation
Spring 2013
University of Oregon
Recommendations

1. The evaluation committee recommends that the University of Oregon clarify its objectives and related indicators of achievement, ensuring that they are measurable, assessable, and verifiable, so that UO can collect the necessary information to prepare the Year Seven Self-Evaluation Report (Standard 1.B).
2. The committee recommends that the University of Oregon intensify and focus its efforts to identify and publish expected course, general education, program, and degree learning outcomes (Standard 2.C.1, 2.C.2 and 2.C.10).
3. The committee recommends that a high priority be placed on developing and implementing the proposed new assessment strategy, that appropriate leadership and resources be committed to its implementation, and that faculty with teaching responsibilities be integrally involved at every stage (Standard 2.C.5).