

July 14, 2023

Dr. John Scaringe
President
Southern California University of Health Sciences
16200 East Amber Valley Dr
Whittier, CA 90604

Dear President Scaringe:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning Southern California University of Health Sciences (SCUHS) by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) at its meeting June 30, 2023. This action was taken after consideration of the report of the review team that conducted the Accreditation Visit to SCUHS March 28-30, 2023. The Commission also reviewed the institutional report and exhibits submitted by SCUHS prior to the Accreditation Visit and the institution's May 22, 2023, response to the team report. The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the visit with you and your colleagues Tamara Rozhon, Provost, Jonathon Egan, Assistant Provost and ALO, Tom Arendt, Vice President of Administration and Finance/CFO, and Chuck Sweet, Chief Operations Officer. 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 Accreditation Visit team report
2. Reaffirm accreditation for a period of eight years
3. Schedule the next reaffirmation review with the Offsite Review in fall 2030 and the Accreditation Visit in spring 2031
4. Schedule a Progress Report to be submitted by November 1, 2024 that includes a copy of the approved strategic plan
5. Schedule an Interim Report to be submitted by November 1, 2026 to address:
 - a. Financial sustainability. Please provide
 - i. Current enrollment by program; revenue by program for '22-23, '23-24, '24-25
 - ii. Change in net assets, capital expenditure report, deferred maintenance, and cash flow
 - iii. Ten-year financial plan including enrollment assumptions by program and capital expenditures plan
 - iv. Audited financial statements for FY23, FY24, FY25, and preliminary year end financial statements for 2026
 - b. Future plans. Please provide

- i. A status report on possible partnerships and potential relocation alternatives with corresponding financial impact
- ii. Updated new program launch map

The Commission commends SCUHS in particular for the following:

1. Implementation of a thoughtful and transparent self-reflection process resulting in significant improvements in key areas identified by the Commission.
2. Strong commitment to its mission and values, reflected in consistent emphasis on interprofessional practice and education, as well as whole person care.
3. Active engagement from the Board of Regents in defining and advancing the university's strategic direction.
4. Substantial progress in strengthening its financial position over the past three years.
5. Dedication to continuous improvement, evidenced by initiatives such as the Big Leap, implementation of annual assessment processes, and regularly scheduled program reviews.
6. Significant investments in personnel, technology, and processes enabling the institution to capture and analyze data for improvement and informed decision-making.
7. Collaboration across departments to address achievement gaps and provide academic support throughout the student experience, resulting in improved outcomes.
8. Responsive and dedicated staff who are deeply committed to the success of faculty, students, and the institution as a whole.

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

1. Strengthen its financial position by diversifying revenue streams. (CFR 3.4)
2. Continue to refine financial plans to enable future decisions regarding the viability of new program launches, partnerships, and potential relocation alternatives. (CFR 3.4)
3. Enhance facilities and equipment to advance student learning and satisfaction, as well as business continuity. (CFR 3.5)
4. Advance the institution's diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives, informed by the recommendations of the DEI Task Force. (CFR 1.4)
5. Further develop the acquisition of external data and actively engage external stakeholders to inform program review and other continuous improvement processes. (CFR 2.7, 4.5)
6. Maintain positive momentum in assessment by mapping interprofessional education collaborative (IPEC) competencies to other outcomes and collecting direct evidence of student achievement of those competencies. (CFR 2.3)

The Commission appreciated hearing about the progress that SCUHS has made in each of these areas.

In accordance with Commission policy, a copy of this letter is being sent to the chair of SCUHS's governing board. The Commission expects that the team report and this action letter will be posted in a readily accessible location on the SCUHS 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 Southern California University of Health Sciences 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/bgd

Cc: Phillip Doolittle, Immediate Past Chair
Tracy Poon Tambascia, Chair
Jonathon Egan, ALO
Thomas Bakman, Board Chair
Members of the Special Visit team
Barbara Gross Davis, Vice President