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PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Ralph A. Wolff

March 12, 2009

Hamid Shirvani, President
California State University, Stanislaus
One University Circle
Turlock, CA 95382

Dear President Shirvani:

At its meeting on February 18-20, 2009, the Commission considered the report of the Capacity and Preparatory Review (CPR) team that conducted the visit to California State University, Stanislaus (CSU Stanislaus) on October 1-3, 2008. The Commission also reviewed the Capacity and Preparatory report submitted by the University prior to the visit. The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the visit with you, Bill Covino and Diana Dematrulias. The updates and additional information you provided and your observations were helpful.

The Commission endorsed the findings, commendations, and recommendations of the team. It wishes, in particular, to commend the institution's broad, sustained, and insightful engagement in the review process, especially with its use of Inquiry Circles to support meaningful investigation into student learning, faculty engagement, and academic planning. The Commission also notes the institution's recognized value in its service to the various communities of the region and to its diverse student populations,

The Commission wishes to emphasize the importance of continuing to give attention to the three areas cited in the team report: (1) Continue to refine and implement assessment strategies related to the General Education curriculum, with a specific emphasis on the expanded use of direct measures for assessment of learning (CFRs 2.2a, 2.4 – 2.7, 2.12), and with specific attention to the inclusion of students at both the Stockton and the Turlock campuses; (2) Continue with the development of support for graduate-level programs, including related library resources and development of stated learning outcomes and their aligned assessment; and (3) Continue to refine and implement definitions of research, scholarship, and creative activity as they relate to faculty workload and decisions about promotion (CFRs 2.8, 2.9). The Commission expects that progress in these areas will be addressed in the Educational Effectiveness Review (EER) report and hopes to see substantial progress in all of them.

The Standards of Accreditation place special emphasis on student learning and on the obligation of the institutions to assess student learning and identify ways to improve it. The team noted that CSU Stanislaus is making significant progress in building the infrastructure for the assessment of learning at the program level. At the time of the EER visit, the team should find that this infrastructure is even

more fully developed, that aligned assessment is under way across the institution, and that the results of these assessments are being consistently considered by faculty for improvement, and will be available for the team's review.

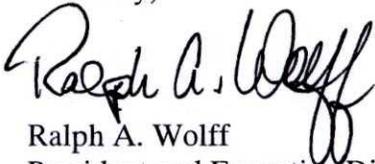
The Commission acted to:

1. Accept the team report and continue accreditation of California State University, Stanislaus.
2. Continue with the Education Effectiveness Review scheduled for March 3-5, 2010.
3. Request that the institution incorporate its response to the issues raised in this action letter and to the major recommendations of the CPR team report in its Educational Effectiveness Review report.
4. Acknowledge the appropriate implementation of the EdD program.

In accordance with Commission policy, a copy of this letter will be sent to the Office of the President of the CSU System and the Chair of the CSU Board of Trustees within one week. It is the Commission's expectation that the team report and this action letter will be widely disseminated throughout the institution to promote engagement and improvement and to support the institution's response to the specific issues identified in the team report.

Please contact me if you have any questions or comments about this letter or the action of the Commission.

Sincerely,



Ralph A. Wolff
President and Executive Director

cc: Commission Chair
Board Chair
Accreditation Liaison Officer
Members of the team
Richard Winn