

July 12, 2019

Dr. Ellen Junn  
President  
California State University at Stanislaus  
One University Circle  
Turlock, CA 95382

Dear President Junn:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning California State University, Stanislaus (CSUStan) by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) at its meeting June 28, 2019. This action was taken after consideration of the report of the review team that conducted the Accreditation Visit to CSUStan April 2-5, 2019. The Commission also reviewed the institutional report and exhibits submitted by CSUStan prior to the Offsite Review (OSR), the supplemental materials requested by the team after the OSR, and the institution's June 3, 2019 response to the team report. The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the visit with you and your colleagues, Dr. Kimberly Greer, Provost/VP for Academic Affairs and Dr. Shawna Young, Associate VP for Academic Affairs/ALO. 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 fall 2026 and the Accreditation Visit in spring 2027
4. Schedule the Mid-Cycle Review to begin May 1, 2023
5. Schedule an Interim Report to be submitted by March 1, 2022 to address the following issues related to the Stockton Center
  - a. Assessment of student support services, academic supports such as tutoring and supplemental instruction, classroom technology services, co-curricular experiences, high-impact practices, and other supports for engaged learning; and faculty support.
  - b. Conditions of the existing physical plant and a system-wide decision on plans for a replacement facility.
  - c. A financial plan and budget allocation that support a high-quality educational experience at this location.
  - d. An updated strategic plan for the location with specific benchmarks that can assess the quality, rigor, and viability of this educational setting.

The Commission commends CSUStan in particular for the following:

1. The university has moved away from the difficult environment of ten years ago and returned to a very positive campus climate. The President and Provost have restored a

sense of trust and collaboration across the entire campus while strong faculty leadership and faculty in general have created a vibrant and exciting learning institution.

2. The university made significant progress on all issues raised in the last accreditation review. It has effective shared governance. It has clarified its RTP processes and criteria. It has developed and implemented a new strategic plan with strong support across the campus.
3. There is a high level of commitment for the assessment process across all aspects of the university. The university is commended for being a data-driven campus where decisions are made based on evidence and student learning outcomes.
4. The budget process is consultative, transparent, and aligned with the new strategic plan.
5. The GREAT Committee and the Faculty Fellows program show significant promise.
6. Students and student leaders on the Turlock campus are enthusiastic about their university.
7. The university's commitment to its students and community. It has intentionally kept its admissions "unimpacted" in order to serve as many students from their catchment area as they can accommodate.

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

1. Many of the initiatives, particularly in the area of data-driven decision-making and assessment, are relatively new to the campus. The university should closely monitor, track, and support these new efforts to ensure that they remain part of the university culture. Further, these new efforts require continued coordination, a clear cycle of annual reporting across all disciplines, and assured financial support. (CFRs 1.2, 2.6, 2.7, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.6)
2. While excellent progress has been made in clarifying the RTP process, locally known as elaborations, in some departments the criteria for promotion and/or tenure are general or list activities with no weight or priority. The campus should carefully review department elaborations to ensure that they are meaningful and trustworthy for those under review. (CFRs 2.8, 3.2)
3. The university should develop specific assessment tools to monitor and track the direct and indirect effects of their over-enrollment policies (remaining not impacted) on all aspects of the university. Additionally, the campus should develop a long-range forecast for areas of fiscal and quality concern with appropriate benchmarks to support the institution's mission and newly crafted strategic plan. (CFRs 1.2, 2.10, 3.4, 4.6, 4.7)
4. The Commission is concerned with the adequacy of academic and student support services at the Stockton location. The commission expects the university, in conjunction with the CSU System leadership, to develop a realistic plan to increase resources at that location. The university and the CSU System should promptly evaluate all aspects of the Stockton location including academic program quality, academic support for students and faculty, student support services, and student success (i.e. persistence and graduation rates). Assessment, evaluation, and financial planning should separate Stockton from the Turlock campus. (CFRs 2.1, 2.2, 3.1-3, 4.3, 4.4)
5. The university and the CSU System should develop a specific short, medium, and long range plan and benchmarks for Stockton for both academic quality, student and faculty support, physical plant, technology, and fiscal security that would include evidence of progress or lack of progress to determine if the Stockton enterprise is viable in the long

run or if a change in objective or any policies would be necessary. (CFRs 2.1, 2.2, 3.1-3, 4.3, 4.4)

In taking this action to reaffirm accreditation, the Commission confirms that CSUStan 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, CSUStan 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 CSUStan's governing board. A copy of this letter will also be sent to Chancellor White. The Commission expects that the team report and this action letter will be posted in a readily accessible location on the CSUStan'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 CSUStan 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,



Jamienna S. Studley  
President

JSS/ thh

Cc: Reed Dasenbrock, Commission Chair  
Shawna Young, ALO  
Adam Day, Board Chair  
Timothy P. White, Chancellor  
Members of the Accreditation Visit team  
Tamela H. Hawley, Vice President