

November 17, 2020

Dr. Devorah Lieberman
President
University of La Verne
1950 Third Street
La Verne, CA 91750

Dear President Lieberman:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning the University of La Verne (ULV) by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) at its meeting November 6, 2020. This action was taken after consideration of the report of the review team that conducted the Accreditation Visit to ULV September 1 – 3, 2020. The Commission also reviewed the institutional report and exhibits submitted by ULV prior to the Offsite Review (OSR), the supplemental materials requested by the team after the OSR, and the institution's October 16, 2020 response to the team report. The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the visit with you and your colleagues Jonathan Reed, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Avo Kechichian, Chief Financial Officer, and Daniel Byrd, Associate Provost for Strategy, Planning, and Effectiveness and Accreditation Liaison Officer (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 2027 and the Accreditation Visit in spring 2028
4. Schedule a Special Visit in fall 2023 to address the six recommendations listed.

The Commission commends ULV in particular for the following:

1. Providing postsecondary access and opportunity to diverse undergraduate, graduate, and adult learners across an expansive geographic footprint and range of modalities.
2. Developing a diverse Board of Trustees that exemplifies a range of expertise and a deep commitment to the institution.
3. Making a concerted effort to restructure and increase capacity in both institutional research and educational effectiveness reflecting a commitment toward continuous improvement and quality assurance.
4. Demonstrating strong financial discipline with consistent annual operating surpluses, bolstered by the completion of a \$125 million fundraising campaign and endowment growth.

5. Implementing a strategic approach to enrollment management that shows early signs of success including a 38% increase in autumn 2020 freshmen enrollment compared to the prior year and substantial growth in the LaFetra College of Education.

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

1. Inculcate a culture of assessment and program review across academic and co-curricular programs that reflects leadership by and engagement of ULV's faculty. (CFR 2.4, 2.7, 4.1, 4.4)
2. Achieve stability in leadership through the appointment and retention of permanent administrative and academic leaders. (CFR 3.6, 3.7)
3. Implement diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives to benefit constituents at all locations and modalities and foster a culture of student success for diverse undergraduate and graduate students. (CFR 1.4, 2.10, 2.13)
4. Pursue a sustainable, strategic approach to decision-making that includes a shared governance model, ensuring that faculty and other key constituents are collaboratively engaged in institutional reflection, planning and evaluation. (CFR 3.7, 3.10, 4.6, 4.7)
5. Systematize data ownership to ensure data integrity and develop effective processes to harness, share, and use data for institutional decision-making. (CFR 4.1, 4.2, 4.3)
6. Rigorously and consistently implement and assess the La Verne Experience across all four components to substantiate the larger structural integrity of GE and BLO attainment across all disciplines, locations and modalities. (CFR 2.2a, 2.2b)

In taking this action to reaffirm accreditation, the Commission confirmed that ULV addressed the three Core Commitments and successfully completed the two-stage institutional review process conducted under the 2013 Standards of Accreditation. In keeping with WSCUC values, ULV 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 is being sent to the chair of ULV's governing board. The Commission expects that the team report and this action letter will be posted in a readily accessible location on the ULV'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 the University of La Verne 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,



Jamienne S. Studley
President

JSS/mam

Cc: Phillip Doolittle, Commission Chair
Daniel Byrd, ALO
Luis Faura, Board Chair
Members of the Accreditation Visit team
Maureen A Maloney, Vice President