



July 22, 2020

President Andrea Cook
Warner Pacific University
2219 S.E. 68th Avenue
Portland, OR 97215

Dear Dr. Cook:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) at its meeting on June 24-26, 2020, concerning the Spring 2020 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness Evaluation of Warner Pacific University. This action was taken after consideration of evidence, including the institution's Self-Evaluation Report, the Peer-Evaluation Report, the optional Institutional Response to the Peer-Evaluation Report, and information received as part of the institutional representative meeting with Commissioners.

Accreditation

Reaffirm Accreditation

Commendations

The Commission commends Warner Pacific University for:

1. The meaningful and effective integration of its mission and core themes into the institution's curriculum and core activities. Administrators, faculty, staff, and students passionately embrace the core themes in a unified, student-focused approach.
2. Intentionality creating an equity culture, demonstrated through enhanced structural diversity, curricular emphasis, and its recent designation as a Hispanic Serving Institution. Diversity, equity and inclusion are woven into the fabric of the university and are measured through various assessments of students, faculty and staff.
3. The remarkable success in collaborating with (the community) and for its urban environment. The institution has become much more visible and connected to the surrounding community, evidenced by its targeted recruiting efforts, extensive service rendered, and valuable contributions of its alumni.
4. The data-driven effort to eliminate unproductive academic programs, invest in new and existing potentially successful academic programs, and downsize the institution to meet financial needs.
5. Institutionalizing innovative First-Year and Transfer Learning Communities that effectively integrate learning with context, and provide students with a strong sense of belonging and educational purpose.

Recommendations Substantially in Compliance but in Need of Improvement

The Commission recommends that Warner Pacific University:

1. Fully implement recently adopted plans to assess student learning in the proficiency areas related to the core themes, academic program reviews, and the new General Education Core (2020 Standard 1.B.2 and 1.C.5-7).

2. Demonstrate short and long-term financial health and stability by strategically growing enrollment, controlling expenses, and becoming less dependent on unrestricted giving to cover operating deficits (2020 Standard 2.E.1 and 2.E.2).

Future Evaluations

- Ad Hoc Report Spring 2021
 - Recommendation 2: Spring 2020 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
- Financial Resources Review Fall 2021 With A Visit
 - Recommendation 2: Spring 2020 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
- Mid-Cycle Review Spring 2023
 - Recommendation 1: Spring 2020 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
- Year 6 - Standard 2 - Policies, Regulations, and Financial Review Spring 2026
- Year 7 - Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness Spring 2027

Per [USDE guidance](#), all virtual accreditation site visits shall be followed by in-person campus visits within a reasonable time when public health conditions improve and are authorized by applicable law. Campus visits may be limited to focus on items identified in the Peer-Evaluation Report and may include fewer than all evaluation team members.

NWCCU 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. If you have questions about any of the information in this letter, please contact your staff liaison.

Sincerely,



Sonny Ramaswamy
President

cc: Dr. Luke Goble, Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dr. Nathan Lindsay, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, The University of Montana - Missoula