July 11, 2012

Dr. Peter J. Fos
President
University of New Orleans
2000 Lakeshore Drive
AD #2000
New Orleans, LA 70148

Dear Dr. Fos:

The following action regarding your institution was taken at the June 2012 meeting of the Board of Trustees of SACS Commission on Colleges:

The Commission on Colleges reviewed your institution’s Referral Report from the submission of its Fifth-Year Interim Report in June 2011. Your institution is requested to submit a First Monitoring Report due April 15, 2013, addressing the following referenced standards of the Principles:

**CS 3.3.1.1 (Institutional effectiveness: educational programs)**

While some departments have made progress in developing student learning outcomes (SLO), others have not identified SLOs that can be used to assess and make improvements in student learning. For some departments, plans appear to have been mingled with the SLOs, making it difficult to assess how the institution addressed previous reviewers’ recommendations.

The institution should demonstrate that it identifies expected outcomes, including student learning outcomes; assesses the extent to which it achieves those outcomes; and makes improvements based on analysis of results for its educational programs. If sampling is used, provide a representative sample that reflects the full array of educational programs offered, including those programs offered at off-campus locations and via distance education, and describe the method of selection.

**CS 3.4.11 (Academic program coordination)**

The coordinators in Biology Education, Chemistry Education, Earth Science Education, Finance, and Business Administration do not appear to meet the minimum qualification standards. Document that the program coordinators in the programs mentioned above have the necessary qualifications to serve as academic program coordinators.

**CS 3.11.3 (Physical facilities)**

The institution provided a “facilities master plan”; however, it was not complete. It did not contain narratives, funding sources, or estimated costs. The master plan was not a detailed, multi-year facilities plan that could be followed or used as a guide. Information has not been provided about the condition or adequacy of the facilities. The institution did not provide a maintenance plan or explain how it manages routine maintenance.
The institution should provide documentation that it has a facilities plan that includes current condition of facilities, planning including funding sources and timing as well as future growth of the institution. The institution should provide documentation that it regularly maintains its facilities.

Guidelines for the monitoring report are enclosed. Because it is essential that institutions follow these guidelines, please make certain that those responsible for preparing the report receive the document. If there are any questions about the format, contact the Commission staff member assigned to your institution. When submitting your report, please send four copies to your Commission staff member.

Please note that Federal regulations and Commission policy stipulate that an institution must demonstrate compliance with all requirements and standards of the Principles of Accreditation within two years following the Commission's initial action on the institution. At the end of that two-year period, if the institution does not comply with all the standards and requirements of the Principles, representatives from the institution may be required to appear before the Commission, or one of its standing committees, to answer questions as to why the institution should not be removed from membership. If the Commission determines good cause at that time, the Commission may extend the period for coming into compliance for a minimum of six months and a maximum of two years and must place the institution on Probation. If the institution has been placed on Probation within the two-year period, extension of accreditation beyond the two-year period for good cause is dependent on the amount of time the institution has already been on Probation. An institution may be on Probation for not more than two years. If the Commission does not determine good cause or if the institution does not come into compliance within two years while on Probation, the institution must be removed from membership. (See enclosed Commission policy “Sanctions, Denial of Reaffirmation, and Removal from Membership.”)

We appreciate your continued support of the activities of the Commission on Colleges. If you have questions, please contact the Commission staff member assigned to your institution.

Sincerely,

Belle S. Wheelan
President

BSW: sf
Enclosures

cc: Dr. Barry D. Goldstein