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NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS & COLLEGES, INC.
COMMISSION ON INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

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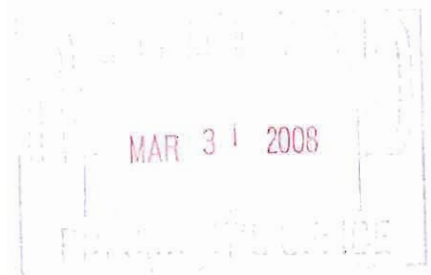
Director of the Commission
BARBARA E. BRITTINGHAM
E-Mail: bbrittingham@neasc.org

Deputy Director of the Commission
PATRICIA M. O'BRIEN, SND
E-Mail: pobrien@neasc.org

Associate Director of the Commission
ROBERT C. FROH
E-Mail: rfroh@neasc.org

Associate Director of the Commission
LOUISE A. ZAK
E-Mail: lzak@neasc.org

Assistant Director of the Commission
JULIE L. ALIG
E-Mail: jalig@neasc.org



March 26, 2008

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that the University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges and has been continuously since 1931. This accreditation encompasses The University of Connecticut Health Center and The University of Connecticut School of Medicine and Dental Medicine in Farmington, CT.

Questions about the accreditation status of University of Connecticut should be directed to the offices of the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education.

Barbara Brittingham
Director of the Commission

BB/bec



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ROBERT C. FROH
E-Mail: rfroh@neasc.org

Associate Director of the Commission
IGUISE A. ZAK
E-Mail: izak@neasc.org

Assistant Director of the Commission
JULIE L. AUG
E-Mail: jjulg@neasc.org

October 12, 2007

Dr. Michael J. Hogan
President
University of Connecticut
352 Mansfield Road, Unit 2048
Storrs, CT 06269-2048

Dear President Hogan:

I am pleased to inform you that at its meeting on September 20, 2007, the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education took the following action with respect to the University of Connecticut:

that the University of Connecticut be continued in accreditation;

that the University submit a fifth-year interim report for consideration in Fall 2011;

that, in addition to the information included in all interim reports, the University give emphasis to its success in:

- 1) refining the academic plan;
- 2) aligning human resources, particularly faculty resources, with the plan;
- 3) developing and implementing formal means of assessing student learning;
- 4) sustaining financial equilibrium in changing financial times;

that the next comprehensive evaluation be scheduled for Fall 2016.

The Commission gives the following reasons for its actions.

The University of Connecticut is continued in accreditation because the Commission finds the institution to be substantially in compliance with the *Standards for Accreditation*. The Commission takes favorable note of the University's self-study, both the fine written product and the strategic use of the process for analysis and improvement. The Commission is gratified to see that the substantial investments made in

the University by the State of Connecticut – \$2.3 billion for over 70 projects – have paid off not only in the physical transformation of the institution, but also in the ability of the University to serve the state with a stronger undergraduate student body, an enhanced undergraduate experience, and significantly enhanced potential in graduate education and research. We share the visiting team’s appreciation of the shared sense of momentum at the University and note that the cooperative spirit demonstrated in formal governance and informal interactions is a valued asset for the institution. The University has enjoyed leadership that has propelled the institution to new levels of quality and it is poised to achieve further excellence in the decade ahead.

Commission policy requires a fifth-year interim report of all institutions on a decennial evaluation cycle. Its purpose is to provide the Commission an opportunity to appraise the institution’s current status in keeping with the policy on Periodic Review. In addition to the information provided in all interim reports, the University is asked to report on four other matters related to our standards on *Planning and Evaluation*, *The Academic Program*, *Faculty*, and *Financial Resources*.

The enormous infusion of funds for the University’s physical plant has resulted in a heavy emphasis on planning related to the physical plant in the last several years. At the same time, the University has had successful planning efforts in enrollment, financial, and information technology areas. We concur with the team’s observations that academic planning is now an important priority for the University, and through the interim report, we look forward to learning of the institution’s success in developing and acting on a sense of priorities and goals in the academic area, as it “establishes feasible priorities, and develops a realistic course of action to achieve identified objectives” (2.2).

The general concerns about the size of the faculty, particularly given enrollment growth, and the University’s ambitions to enhance its graduate education and research suggest that some continuing expansion of the size of the faculty is foreseen. Particularly with a new academic plan and the priorities arising from the plan, the University will want to assure that “institutional decision-making, particularly the allocation of resources, is consistent with planning priorities” (2.2) and that the University continues to develop a “faculty that is suited to the fulfillment of the institution’s mission” (Statement of the standard, *Faculty*).

We were heartened to learn that in the area of assessment the University now reports strong commitment and progress since the preparation of the self-study and visit by the team. We concur that this is an area affording the University a significant opportunity for improvement. Through the interim report, the University will have the opportunity to appraise its own progress in developing and implementing a “systematic and broad-based approach to the assessment of student learning focused on educational improvement through understanding what and how students are learning through their academic program and, as appropriate, through experiences outside the classroom,” (4.44) with “the results being a demonstrable factor in improving the learning opportunities and results for students” (4.45).

Finally, while noting that the institution has benefited greatly from the significant and sustained financial support of the citizens of the State of Connecticut, the University has now built out a new level of excellence that will require sustained commitment from a variety of sources in an era of changing financial times. We ask that through the interim report the University describe any changes in financial support in intervening years as well as describing its status at the time of the report, reflecting the University’s ability to ensure that its “multi-year financial planning is realistic and reflects the capacity of the institution to depend on identified sources of revenue and ensure the advancement of educational quality and services for students” (9.3).

The scheduling of a comprehensive evaluation in Fall 2016 is consistent with the Commission's policy of requiring each accredited institution to undergo a comprehensive evaluation every ten years.

You will note that the Commission has specified no length or term of accreditation. Accreditation is a continuing relationship that is reconsidered when necessary. Thus, while the Commission has indicated the timing of the next comprehensive evaluation, the schedule should not be unduly emphasized because it is subject to change.

The Commission expressed appreciation for the self-study prepared by the University of Connecticut and for the report submitted by the visiting team. The Commission also welcomed the opportunity to meet with you and Dr. Philip E. Austin, immediate past president of the University, and Dr. Karla Fox, Professor of Business Administration and chair of the University self-study team, as well as Dr. Mark Nordenberg, team chair, during its deliberations.

You are encouraged to share this letter with all of the institution's constituencies. It is Commission policy to inform the chairperson of the institution's governing board of action on its accreditation status. In a few days we will be sending a copy of this letter to Dr. John W. Rowe. The institution is free to release information about the evaluation and the Commission's action to others, in accordance with Commission policy.

The Commission hopes that the evaluation process has contributed to institutional improvement. It appreciates your cooperation with the effort to provide public assurance of the quality of higher education.

If you have any questions about the Commission's action, please contact Barbara Brittingham, Director of the Commission.

Sincerely,



Judith R. Gordon

JRG/slo

Enclosure

cc Dr. John W. Rowe
Visiting Team