

July 18, 2024

Dr. André Stephens
President
Fresno Pacific University
1717 South Chestnut Ave
Fresno, CA 93702

Dear President Stephens:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning Fresno Pacific University (FPU) by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) at its meeting June 28, 2024. This action was taken after consideration of the report of the review team that conducted the Special Visit to FPU March 14-15, 2024 using the 2013 Standards of Accreditation. The Commission also reviewed the institutional report and exhibits submitted by FPU prior to the Special Visit and the institution's May 13, 2024 response to the team report. The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the visit with you, and your colleagues Lisa Foster, Interim Associate Provost and ALO, and Sherri Hughes, Interim Provost. Your comments were very helpful in informing the Commission's deliberations. The date of this action constitutes the effective date of the institution's status with WSCUC.

Actions

1. Receive the Special Visit team report that focused on: (1) diversity, equity, and inclusion; (2) program review; and (3) faculty collective responsibility for assessment
2. Continue with the previously scheduled reaffirmation review with the Offsite Review in fall 2029 and the Accreditation Visit in spring 2030
3. Schedule an Interim Report to be submitted by November 1, 2026 to address:
 - a. Progress in reaching the university's goals for improving the culture of diversity
 - b. Sustaining progress on use of data to support decision-making
 - c. Stability and effectiveness of leadership at the cabinet level.

Commendations

The Commission commends the institution for:

1. considerable progress on faculty engagement and ownership of the assessment process.
2. development of the Program Review Cohort model, which has increased faculty involvement, development, and engagement in the program review process.

Areas for Development

The Commission requires the institution to respond to the following areas for development:

1. Ensure institution-wide engagement that unifies curricular and co-curricular efforts to achieve the university's goals to improve its culture of diversity. (CFR 1.4)
2. Sustain progress in using data to support effective decision-making. (CFR 4.2)
3. Ensure that the new senior leadership is equipped to support efficient organizational structures and effective decision-making to sustain forward momentum on institutional plans and improvements. (CFR 3.7)

In accordance with Commission policy, a copy of this letter is being sent to the chair of FPU's governing board. The Commission expects that the team report and this action letter will be posted in a readily accessible location on FPU'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 FPU 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,



Jamiene S. Studley
President

JSS/thh

Cc: Tracy Poon Tambascia, Commission Chair
Lisa Foster, ALO
Joshua Wilson, Board Chair
Members of the Accreditation Visit Team
Tamela Hawley, Vice President