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February 4, 2013

Dr. David W. Pershing
President
University of Utah
201 S. President's Circle
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Dear President Pershing: ^{David}

On behalf of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, I am pleased to report that the accreditation of the University of Utah has been reaffirmed on the basis of the Fall 2012 Year Three *Resources and Capacity* Evaluation which was expanded to address Recommendation 1 of the Fall 2011 Year One *Mission and Core Themes* Peer-Evaluation Report.

In reaffirming accreditation, the Commission requests that the University address Recommendations 1 and 2 of the Fall 2012 Year Three *Resources and Capacity* Peer-Evaluation Report in an Ad Hoc Self-Evaluation Report without a visit in Fall 2014. A copy of the Recommendations is enclosed for your reference.

In taking this action, the Commission finds that Recommendations 1 and 2 of the Fall 2012 Year Three *Resources and Capacity* Peer-Evaluation Report are areas where the University of Utah is substantially in compliance with Commission criteria for accreditation, but in need of improvement.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes for a rewarding New Year.

Sincerely,

Sandra E. Elman
President

SEE:rb

Enclosure: Recommendations

cc: Dr. Donna White, Interim Dean of the Graduate School ✓

Year Three *Resources and Capacity* Peer-Evaluation Report
Fall 2012
University of Utah
Recommendations

1. The evaluation committee observed that the institution has collected and published learning outcomes for all degree programs. While some programs, particularly programs that undergo specialized accreditation, have an established track record of assessment of program learning outcomes, some faculty do not appear to be aware or have not accepted their responsibility for assessment of program learning outcomes. Substantial progress is needed to develop a comprehensive program of assessment across all disciplines (Standard 2.C.2).
2. The committee observed an uneven approach to staff and administrator evaluation. The committee recommends that the University of Utah implement a process to ensure regular staff performance evaluations (Standard 2.B.2).