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March 8, 2019

Via Electronic Correspondence: lemorgan@aii.edu

Lindsey Morgan, Campus Director
Art Institute of Seattle
2323 Elliott Avenue
Seattle, WA 98121

Lindsey:

This is to inform you that the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities has accepted Art Institute of Seattle's notice to cease operations and withdraw its accreditation with the Commission, effective March 8, 2019.

In accepting this request, the Commission notes that Art Institute of Seattle had been working with NWCCU to enter into a series of teach-out agreements and articulation pathways for students, and with the Washington Student Achievement Council to provide transfer alternatives, but that the abrupt closure has compromised those activities. The abrupt closure is further disappointing as it comes with only two weeks remaining in the term, preventing students from completing their courses and, in some cases, degrees. Furthermore, the failure to adequately support Information Fairs offered by NWCCU and the Washington Student Achievement Council and to comply with Commission directives around communications to students on March 6, 2019 is deeply disconcerting.

We expect that Art Institute of Seattle will transmit campus documents, such as student records, student financial services, and HR documents to the proper state agency through the federally appointed receiver, Mark E. Dottore. We also understand that if students have questions regarding transcripts, ledger cards or diplomas, career services assistance, enrollment verification, financial requests, account balance inquires, 1098-T forms, and contacts for all other questions, they may contact DCEH Central Services at service@dcedh.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sonny Ramaswamy".

Sonny Ramaswamy
President

CMP:eg

cc: Mark E. Dottore, Receiver
Sam Loftin, Washington Student Achievement Council
Dr. Diane Jones, Deputy Undersecretary, United States Department of Education