



8060 165th Avenue N.E., Suite 100
Redmond, WA 98052-3981
425 558 4224
Fax: 425 376 0596
www.nwccu.org

January 17, 2019

Dr. John E. Cech
President
Carroll College
1601 North Benton Avenue
Helena, MT 59602

Dear President Cech:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) at its meeting on January 9-11, 2019, concerning the Fall 2018 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Evaluation of Carroll College. This action was taken after consideration of evidence, including the institution's Self-Evaluation Report, the Peer-Evaluation Report, the optional Institutional Response to the Peer-Evaluation Report, and information received as part of the institutional representative meeting with Commissioners.

Based on these materials and deliberations, the Commissioners took the following actions:

Accreditation

- Reaffirm accreditation.

Status of Previous Recommendations Addressed in this Evaluation

- Recommendations 1 and 2 of the Fall 2013 Year Three Peer-Evaluation are fulfilled and no further action is required.

Commendations

The Commission commends Carroll College for:

1. Providing strong programs, in keeping with its mission, for student engagement in local and global community-based activities, student leadership or ministry opportunities, internships, and cooperative projects with faculty.
2. Offering opportunities for undergraduate research through summer research projects, integration into coursework, and the Student Undergraduate Research Festival.
3. Transforming the library into a state-of-the-art learning commons with a Center for Professional Communication which provides integrated services for students.
4. Its investment in training for and implementation of strategies to bolster advising, support processes, and a greater emphasis on timely completion of degree.
5. Its intentional and focused efforts on the core themes evidenced by many students who shared stories of how they see the embodiment of faith every day in their Carroll experiences.

Recommendations Substantially in Compliance but in Need of Improvement

The Commission recommends that Carroll College:

1. Integrate clear and comprehensive objectives leading to mission fulfillment as Carroll College moves through a multifaceted planning process (strategic plan, planning and prioritization, enrollment plan, core curriculum) (1.A.2, 3.A.1).
2. Complete the process of analysis of faculty responsibilities and workload to ensure that they are commensurate with the institution's expectations (2.B.5).
3. Complete the process of developing and implementing the revised Core Curriculum in relation to the institution's mission (2.C.10).
4. For long-term financial viability, complete the planning and prioritization process to address the expected budget shortfall due to lower enrollment and develop alternative cash flow projections and a forecast to include enrollment and other sources of funding (e.g. bank loans, auxiliary activities and related party funding) (2.F.1 and 2.F.2).

Required Follow-Up

- Address Recommendations 1, 2, 3, and 4 as an addendum to the Spring 2020 Mission and Core Themes Report.

Future Evaluations

- Mission and Core Themes Report in Spring 2020 with an addendum to address Recommendations 1, 2, 3, and 4 of the Fall 2018 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Peer-Evaluation Report.
- Mid-Cycle Evaluation and visit in Fall 2021.
- Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Evaluation and visit in Fall 2025.

NWCCU 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. If you have questions about any of the information in this letter, please contact your staff liaison, Dr. Les Steele, Senior Vice President.

Sincerely,



Sonny Ramaswamy
President

SR:rb

cc: Dr. Dawn Gallinger, Accreditation Liaison Officer
Monsignor Kevin O'Neill, Chair, Carroll College Board of Trustees
Dr. Ron Large, Fall 2018 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Peer-Evaluation Committee Chair