



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

January 22, 2019

Mr. Hugh Porter
Acting President
Reed College
3203 S.E. Woodstock Blvd.
Portland, OR 97202-8199

Dear President Porter:

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 Reed 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.

Accreditation

- Reaffirm Accreditation.

Commendations

The Commission commends Reed College for:

1. Faculty commitment to the intellectual development of each individual student as demonstrated through the rigorous assessment process of the junior qualifying exam and the assessment of independence of thought, inquiry and expression through defense of the senior thesis.
2. Faculty support of students enrolled in their major, and a defining aspect of the Reed experience for students. This holds true leading up to the junior qualifying exam and through the two-semester thesis.
3. The highly collaborative digital initiatives led by the Library, Computing and Information Services, and Academic Support Services in collaboration with faculty. The Evidence to Scholarship (E2S) project made significant contributions to all three core themes and developed local expertise and capacity to integrate data resources, tools and analysis into student research. Reed Digital Collections and Data@Reed showcase innovative cross-departmental collaborations with broad impact.
4. The variety and pervasive use of technology resources to support the campus community and the students throughout their academic and social development.

Recommendations for Areas Out of Compliance

The Commission finds that the following Recommendations are areas where Reed College is out of compliance with the NWCCU Standards for Accreditation. According to U.S. Department of Education Regulation 34 CFR 602.20 and Commission Policy, *Commission Action Regarding Institutional Compliance Within Specified Period* (enclosed), the Commission requires that Reed College take appropriate action to ensure these Recommendations are addressed and resolved in the prescribed two-year period.

The Commission recommends that Reed College:

1. Clearly articulate to students that student learning outcomes for general education and student achievement of these outcomes be regularly assessed by the faculty (Standard 2.C.9 and 2.C.10).
2. “Identifies and publishes expected course, program, and degree learning outcomes. Expected student learning outcomes for courses are provided in written form to enrolled students” (Standards 2.C.2 and 4.A.3).

Recommendations Substantially in Compliance but in Need of Improvement

The Commission recommends that Reed College:

3. Enhance pre-major advising to ensure that students receive appropriate support as well as timely, useful and accurate information about relevant academic requirements (Standard 2.D.3, 2.D.10).
4. Document and use the results of its assessment of student learning to inform academic and learning-support planning and practices that lead to enhancement of student learning achievements (Standard 4.B.2).

Required Follow-Up

- Address Recommendations 1 and 2 of the Fall 2018 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Peer-Evaluation Report as an addendum to the Fall 2020 Mission and Core Themes Report.
- Address Recommendations 3 and 4 of the Fall 2018 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Peer-Evaluation Report as an addendum to the Fall 2021 Mid-Cycle Self-Evaluation Report.

Future Evaluations

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

Sincerely,



Sonny Ramaswamy
President

SR:rb

cc: Mr. Michael Tamada, Accreditation Liaison Officer
Mr. Roger M. Perlmutter, Chairman, Reed College Board of Trustees
Dr. Kathleen Murray, Fall 2018 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Peer-Evaluation
Committee Chair