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January 17, 2019

Mr. Donald Tuski
President
Pacific Northwest College of Art
511 NW Broadway
Portland, OR 97209

Dear President Tuski:

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 Pacific Northwest College of Art. 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.

Status of Previous Recommendations Addressed in this Evaluation

- Recommendations 1 and 2 of the Spring 2014 Year Three Peer-Evaluation Report are continued as Recommendations 1 and 2 of the Fall 2018 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Peer-Evaluation Report.

Commendations

The Commission commends Pacific Northwest College of Art for:

1. The strong sense of shared commitment and purpose expressed by virtually all constituents of the College.
2. The success of Make+Think+Code, internships, and other innovative and creative programs that engage the broader community, thus incorporating professional practice into the learning experience.
3. The inclusive processes of planning and the atmosphere of open dialog that effectively involves faculty, staff, and students. Furthermore, the Commission commends the Pacific Northwest College of Art Board of Governors for its engaged support of institutional sustainability and quality.

Recommendations Substantially in Compliance but in Need of Improvement

The Commission recommends that Pacific Northwest College of Art:

1. Review the appropriateness and meaningfulness of data being collected and the defined thresholds of core theme objectives in order to more effectively pursue continuous improvement and to more accurately determine mission fulfillment (Standards 1.A.2, 1.B.2, 3.A.3).

2. While there is evidence that program learning outcomes have been developed, they are not widely available, nor do they seem to be operationalized as part of assessment processes; also, the institution is encouraged to consider the meaningfulness of current data being collected to evaluate achievement of core theme objectives, and ultimately, the degree of mission fulfillment (Standards 2.C.2, 3.B.3, 4.A.1).
3. Continue to closely monitor institutional financial position and planning to ensure fiscal stability in support of programs, services, and ultimately, mission fulfillment (Standard 2.F.1).

Required Follow-Up

- Address Recommendation 3 of the Fall 2018 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Peer-Evaluation Report in a Financial Resources Review by May 1, 2019, to also include a narrative for the status of compliance with a financial covenant associated with a note payable to Meyer Memorial Trust as described in the institution's 2017 financial statement, note 13.
- Address Recommendation 1 of the Fall 2018 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Peer-Evaluation Report as an addendum to the Spring 2020 Mission and Core Themes Report.
- Address Recommendation 2 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

- Financial Resources Review by May 1, 2019, to address Recommendation 3 of the Fall 2018 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Peer-Evaluation Report to also include a narrative for the status of compliance with a financial covenant associated with a note payable to Meyer Memorial Trust as described in the institution's 2017 financial statement, note 13.
- Mission and Core Themes Report in Spring 2020 with an addendum to address Recommendation 1 of the Fall 2018 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Peer-Evaluation Report.
- Mid-Cycle Evaluation and visit in Fall 2021 with an addendum to address Recommendation 2 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, Dr. Pamela Goad, Senior Vice President.

Sincerely,



Sonny Ramaswamy
President

SR:rb

cc: Ms. Cordelia Daniels, Accreditation Liaison Officer
Mr. Craig Boretz, Chair, PNCA Board of Governors
Dr. Stephen Germic, Fall 2018 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Peer-Evaluation
Committee Chair