February 3, 2020

Rev. Mark Poorman, C.S.C.
University of Portland
5000 North Willamette Blvd.
Portland, OR 97203-5798

Dear President Poorman:

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 8-10, 2020, concerning the Fall 2019 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Evaluation of University of Portland. 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 University of Portland for:

1. The centrality of the core themes to the work of the faculty and staff, and the influence of the core themes on the student experience. This work is guided not only by pursuing educational excellence but also by assuring a holistic experience through initiatives focused on faith and formation development and service and leadership experiences. Moreover, all efforts are grounded in the Holy Cross mission of developing minds, hearts, and hands.

2. Effectively extending the reach of programmatic core themes beyond the specific formal scope within offices or programs. These programs have actively sought out partners across campus, shared educational materials and rubrics broadly, and, in so doing, magnified the impact of their work in a collaborative fashion.

3. Broadly collaborative and transparent decision-making processes.

Future Evaluations

- Mid-Cycle Review Fall 2022
- Policies, Regulations, and Financial Review Fall 2025
- Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness Fall 2026
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.

Sincerely,

Sonny Ramaswamy
President

cc: Dr. Thomas Greene, Provost
Dr. Alyce DeMarais, Professor and Chair, Department of Biology, University of Puget Sound