January 28, 2008

Dr. Milton Glick
President
University of Nevada, Reno
1664 North Virginia Street
Reno, NV 89557

Dear President Glick:

On behalf of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, I am pleased to report that the accreditation of the University of Nevada, Reno has been reaffirmed on the basis of the Fall 2007 Comprehensive Evaluation Report. Congratulations on receiving this continued recognition.

The policy of the Commission is not to grant accreditation for a definite number of years. Instead, accreditation must be reaffirmed periodically. Each institution is required to conduct a self-study and be visited by a full evaluation committee at least once every ten years, and during the fifth year, the institution is to submit an interim report and be visited by one or more Commission representatives. In the case of the University of Nevada, Reno, the Commission requested that the institution prepare a focused interim report and host one or more Commission representatives in spring 2009 to address Recommendations 3, 5, 6, 8 and 11 of the Fall 2007 Comprehensive Evaluation Report. In addition, the Commission requested that the institution prepare a focused interim report and host a Commission representative in fall 2010 to address Recommendations 1, 2, 4, 7, 9 and 10 of the Fall 2007 Comprehensive Evaluation Report. A copy of the Recommendations is enclosed for your convenience.

In reaffirming accreditation, the Commission determined that Recommendations 1, 2, 4, 7, 9 and 10 of the Fall 2007 Comprehensive Evaluation Report are areas where the institution is substantially in compliance with Commission criteria, but in need of improvement. The Commission further determined that Recommendations 3, 5, 6, 8 and 11 of the Fall 2007 Comprehensive Evaluation Report do not meet Commission criteria for accreditation. According to U.S. Department of Education Regulation 34 CFR 602.20 and Commission Policy A-18, Commission Action Regarding Institutional Compliance Within Specified Period (enclosed), the Commission requires that the University of Nevada, Reno take appropriate action to ensure that Recommendations 3, 5, 6, 8 and 11 of the Fall 2007 Comprehensive Evaluation Report are addressed and resolved within the prescribed two-year period.

In the unlikely event the Commission should conclude that an institution is in danger of being unable to fulfill its mission and goals or to continue to meet the Eligibility Requirements, Standards or related Policies for accreditation, the Commission reserves the right to request that the institution receive an evaluation committee for a special review.
The Commission commends the University for the successful implementation and expansion of its distance education programs supported by Extended Studies. Further, the Commission applauds the University for the exceptional ethic of care for students that is evidenced throughout the staff and faculty. Moreover, the Commission finds laudable the University’s forward-thinking approach to the achievement of enrollment stability through extensive and long-range K-12 outreach programs focused on increasing high school graduation rates and college entry within the state of Nevada. Lastly, the Commission commends the University on its convergence of library and information technology services that has resulted in significant efficiencies, excellent services, and new programs that are heavily used and very positively received by the entire campus. The new Knowledge Center is a showcase facility that is a model of excellence that will enable even greater collaboration among library and IT professionals to serve faculty and students across the institution.

Again, congratulations on receiving this recognition. Please feel free to contact me regarding your thoughts or suggestions for improving the comprehensive evaluation process and for any assistance we may provide the institution.

We will write in fall 2008 regarding the spring 2009 Focused Interim Report and visit.

Best wishes for a rewarding and peaceful new year.

Sincerely,

Sandra E. Elman
President

SEE:rb

Enclosures: Recommendations and Policy A-18

cc: Dr. William N. Cathey, Vice Provost
    Mr. Michael B. Wixom, Board Chair, Nevada System of Higher Education