February 3, 2017

Dr. Marc Johnson  
President  
University of Nevada, Reno  
1664 North Virginia Street  
Reno, NV 89557  

Dear President Johnson,

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 2016 Year Seven Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Evaluation which was expanded to again address Recommendations 1 and 2 of the Fall 2011 Year One Peer-Evaluation Report as well as addressing Recommendations 1, 2, and 3 of the Fall 2013 Year Three Peer-Evaluation Report. These matters were the subject of correspondence dated February 24, 2012, and February 12, 2014. Congratulations on receiving this continued recognition.

In reaffirming accreditation, the Commission determined that its expectations regarding Recommendations 1 and 2 of the Fall 2011 Year One Peer-Evaluation Report and Recommendations 1, 2, and 3 of the Fall 2013 Year Three Peer-Evaluation Report have been met.

In taking this action, the Commission requests that the University submit an Ad Hoc Report without a visit in fall 2017 to address Recommendations 1, 2, and 3 of the Fall 2016 Year Seven Peer-Evaluation Report. A copy of the Recommendations is enclosed for your reference. Please note that the Fall 2017 Ad Hoc Report is separate from the University's Fall 2017 Year One Report. In making this request, the Commission finds that Recommendations 1, 2, and 3 of the Fall 2016 Year Seven Peer-Evaluation Report are areas where the University of Nevada, Reno is substantially in compliance with Commission criteria for accreditation, but in need of improvement. The Commission encourages the institution to more clearly define its current extent of mission fulfillment and the data which provide the rationale for demonstrating mission fulfillment.

The Commission commends the leadership of the University of Nevada, Reno for guiding the institution through difficult financial times into an era of thoughtful and strategic reinvestment in the programs and priorities of the institution. In addition, the Commission commends the University for its development and use of collaborative processes, shared governance, appropriate inclusion of students and for its array of plans that are used to direct the efforts to improve the institution. The Commission finds noteworthy the NevadaFIT (Freshman Intensive Transition) Program which exposes a large, diverse group of first year students to a realistic orientation of the style, pace, intensity and rigor of college courses in order to increase their successful transition from high school to college.
If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes for a peaceful and fulfilling New Year.

Sincerely,

Sandra E. Elman
President

SEE:rb

Enclosure: Recommendations

cc: Dr. Joseph I. Cline, Vice Provost, Undergraduate Education
    Mr. Rick Trachok, Board Chair, Nevada System of Higher Education
    Mr. John V. White, Chancellor, Nevada System of Higher Education
Year Seven Peer-Evaluation Report  
Fall 2016  
University of Nevada, Reno  
Recommendations

1. The evaluation committee recommends that the University of Nevada, Reno systematically assess the progress toward accomplishment of its goals in Core Themes Two and Three by utilizing systematic collection and analysis of meaningful and verifiable data for assessing Core Themes Two and Three (Standard 4.A.1 and 4.A.6).

2. The evaluation committee recommends that the University of Nevada, Reno utilize the systematic assessments of Core Themes Two and Three for improvement by informing planning, decision-making, and allocation of resources (Standard 4.B.1).

3. The evaluation committee recommends that the University of Nevada, Reno assess mission fulfillment in a comprehensive, formal manner (Standard 5.A).