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cc: L. Beauvais
A. Morrissey
8/3/11

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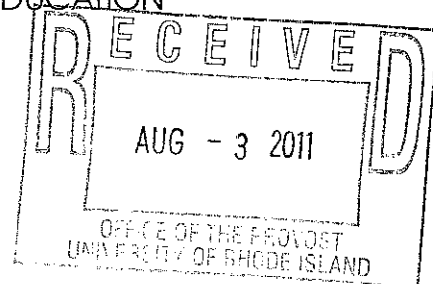
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July 29, 2011

Dr. David M. Dooley
President
University of Rhode Island
Green Hall, 35 Campus Avenue
Kingston, RI 02881-1303



Dear President Dooley:

In its action of February 28, 2008 regarding University of Rhode Island, the Commission indicated that a fifth-year interim report should be submitted by the University in the Fall of 2012. I write now to remind you of that obligation.

Fifth-year interim reports are required of all institutions on a ten-year evaluation cycle. Their purpose is to provide the Commission an opportunity to review the current status of the institution. The "Procedures for Fifth-Year Reports" and the "Policy on the Periodic Review of Accredited Institutions" are enclosed.

These instructions, along with the "Affirmation of Compliance with Federal Regulations Relating to Title IV," and the forms referred to in the "Procedures for Fifth-Year Reports," are available on the Commission's website <http://cihe.neasc.org> via a link on the homepage called "Institutional Reporting Guidelines and Forms."

You will note that institutions preparing interim reports are asked to address the Commission's *Standards for Accreditation*, which are also available on the Commission's website. The Standards have recently been modified as a result of a mid-course review. Effective on July 1, 2011, fifth-year reports should take these modifications into account.

Beginning with reports due for consideration in Fall 2012, the Commission is piloting an *Educational Effectiveness Interim Report Format* which the Commission believes can help institutions focus the preparation of the interim report on areas of increasing importance in higher education. Institutions are encouraged to use the *Educational Effectiveness Format*.

While the report is to provide an overview of the institution in its current state of development, I note that the Commission requested that you give particular emphasis to the following concerns in its letters dated April 3, 2008 and March 29, 2011:

From the April 3, 2008 letter:

1. addressing the issues identified for attention in the Fall 2010 report:
 - a. developing and implementing a comprehensive, integrated financial planning process that provides clear and robust links to academic and capital priorities;
 - b. implementing a systematic process of academic program review;
 - c. analyzing the implications for planning and governance of possible changes to the relationship between the University and the State of Rhode Island;
2. achieving its goals for student retention and persistence to graduation and assuring the effectiveness of the institution's financial aid policies in facilitating accomplishment of these goals;

From the March 29, 2011 letter:

1. implementing the new Academic Plan for 2010-2015 and integrating the plan's academic and capital priorities into the University's financial planning process;
2. implementing the new Academic Program Review process and using the results to improve academic programming.

Your report is due by August 15, 2012. It will be scheduled for review at one of the Commission's Fall 2012 meetings.

An orientation session will be held on October 4, 2011 at the DoubleTree Hotel Bedford, MA for institutions completing fifth-year reports due August 15, 2012. The registration fee for this event is \$100 for the first institutional representative and \$75 for each additional person. An email with a link for registration is being sent to your institution's Accreditation Liaison Officer who is also copied on this letter.

At the institution's request, a member of the Commission's staff will visit the institution, to discuss its preparation in light of Commission expectations.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions about this matter.

Sincerely,



Robert C. Froh

RCF/srh

Enclosure:

cc: Dr. Donald H. DeHayes