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August 3, 2010

Dr. Joseph Robertson
President
Oregon Health and Science University
3181 S.W. Sam Jackson Park Road, L-101
Portland, OR 97239-3098

Dear President Robertson:

On behalf of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, I am pleased to report that the accreditation of Oregon Health and Science University has been reaffirmed on the basis of the Spring 2010 Regular Interim Evaluation. Congratulations on receiving this continued recognition.

In reaffirming accreditation, the Commission requests that the institution submit an addendum to the institution's Spring 2011 Year One Report to address Recommendations 1 and 2 of the Spring 2010 Regular Interim Evaluation Report. A copy of the Recommendations is enclosed for your reference.

In making this request, the Commission determined that Recommendations 1 and 2 of the Spring 2010 Regular Interim Evaluation Report are areas where Oregon Health and Science University substantially meets the Commission's criteria for accreditation, but needs improvement.

We will write in fall 2010 regarding the Spring 2011 Year One Report. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes for a rewarding academic year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandra E. Elman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line above the name.

Sandra E. Elman
President

SEE:rb

Enclosure: Recommendations

cc: Dr. Robert L. Vieira, Vice Provost for Academic and Student Affairs ✓
Mr. Charles Wilhoite, Board Chairman

Regular Interim Evaluation Report
Spring 2010
Oregon Health and Science University
Recommendations

1. While OHSU has laid the foundation for the effective assessment of educational programs through the development of policies and templates for student learning objectives and assessment, the implementation of an institutional process of assessment and improvement has not been achieved. The Assessment Council has been instrumental in the progress that has been made to date, but appears to lack the authority to ensure that student learning outcomes meet an institutional standard and that the assessment of outcomes is leading to programmatic and institutional improvement. It was not clear during the visit whether the decentralized process of outcome assessment and improvement at the School and academic program level meets the needs of the institution. The answer to this question is essential to ensuring compliance with Policy 2.2 *Educational Assessment*. The Committee recommends that OHSU provide clear authority and responsibility to those accountable for ensuring that educational program planning is based on regular and continuous assessment of programs to meet the needs of the institution (Standard 2.B, Policy 2.2).

2. OHSU should ensure that all of its academic programs have student learning outcomes, assess the achievement of the outcomes, and use the assessments to lead to program improvement. In particular, the Committee recommends that OHSU complete the development of a process of periodic review for all graduate programs and implement the process during the 2010 academic year (Standard 2.B).