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July 24, 2006

Dr. Rodolfo Arévalo
President
Eastern Washington University
214 Showalter Hall
Cheney, WA 99004-2424

Dear President Arévalo:

On behalf of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, I am pleased to report that the accreditation of Eastern Washington University has been reaffirmed at the baccalaureate and master's degree levels on the basis of the spring 2006 comprehensive evaluation visit. In addition, the Commission also granted accreditation at the doctoral degree level to include the Doctor in Physical Therapy (DPT) degree. The effective date for accreditation at the doctoral level is September 1, 2005. Congratulations on receiving this 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 Eastern Washington University, the Commission requested that the institution submit a progress report in fall 2007 to address Recommendations 3 and 6 of the spring 2006 Comprehensive Evaluation Report. The Commission also requested that the institution prepare a focused interim report and host a Commission representative(s) in spring 2009 to address Recommendations 1, 2, 4, and 5 of the spring 2006 Comprehensive Evaluation Report.

In reaffirming accreditation at the baccalaureate and master's levels and granting accreditation at the doctoral level, the Commission determined that Recommendations 1, 2, 4, and 5 of the spring 2006 Comprehensive Evaluation Report are areas where the University is substantially in compliance with Commission criteria, but in need of improvement. However, in regard to Recommendations 3 and 6, the Commission determined that the institution does not meet the criteria for accreditation. According to U.S. Department of Education Regulation 34 CRF 602.20 and Commission Policy A-18, *Commission Action Regarding Institutional Compliance Within Specified Period* (enclosed), the Commission requires that Eastern Washington University take appropriate action to ensure that Recommendations 3 and 6 are addressed and resolved within the prescribed two-year period. (A copy of the Recommendations from the spring 2006 Comprehensive Evaluation Report is enclosed for your reference). In making these determinations, the Commission also encourages Eastern Washington University to reflect on the congruency between its stated mission as a regional, comprehensive institution and its recent strategic expansion into additional locations within the state of Washington.

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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 achieving widespread awareness of the institution's mission, its inclusive, participatory strategic planning process, and for realigning its outreach program with the institution's strategic plan. Moreover, the Commission applauds the faculty for their commitment to, and actualization of, a student-centered learning environment. The Commission finds laudable the University's well-planned and effective implementation of the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program. Lastly, the Commission commends the University for its thoughtful and attractive revitalization and maintenance of its physical plant as evidenced in its walkways, landscaping, and its renovated facilities.

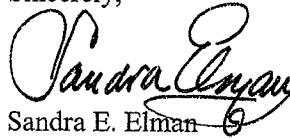
Again, congratulations on receiving this recognition. Please feel free to contact me regarding your thoughts on the comprehensive evaluation process, suggestions for improving the process and for any assistance we may provide your institution.

We will write in fall 2008 regarding a date for the spring 2009 Focused Interim Report and visit. We will also write in spring 2007 regarding the fall 2007 Progress Report.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Best wishes for a rewarding year.

Sincerely,



Sandra E. Elman
President

SEE:rb

Enclosures: Recommendations; Policy A-18

cc: Dr. Larry L. Kiser, Associate Vice Provost, Teaching and Learning Center
Ms. Kris Mikkelsen, Chair, Board of Trustees