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July 27, 2017

Dr. Isaiah Crawford
President
University of Puget Sound
1500 North Warner
Tacoma, WA 98416

Dear President Crawford: *Isaiah*

On behalf of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, I am pleased to inform you that the accreditation of the University of Puget Sound has been reaffirmed on the basis of the unique Spring 2017 Demonstration Project Year Seven *Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability* Evaluation which was expanded to address Recommendation 1 of the Spring 2013 Year Three Peer-Evaluation Report. Congratulations on receiving this continued recognition.

The Commission determined that its expectations regarding Recommendation 1 of the Spring 2013 Year Three Peer-Evaluation Report have not yet been met. Therefore the Commission requests that the University of Puget Sound again address Recommendation 1 of the Spring 2013 Year Three Peer-Evaluation report in an Ad Hoc Report without a visit in Spring 2018.

The Commission commends the visionary leadership of former President Ron Thomas coupled with the steadfast, strategic coordination of the University's Demonstration Project Co-Directors Martin Jackson and Ellen Peters for ensuring that the University of Puget Sound engaged in an intensive, deliberative evaluative process aimed at identifying meaningful and valuable means of focusing on the assessment of student learning outcomes in a complex liberal arts institution of higher learning. Moreover, the Commission wishes to express its appreciation to the University of Puget Sound for participating in the Demonstration Project and making a three year commitment to focusing on the assessment of student learning outcomes and general education as manifestations of mission fulfillment. The Commission anticipates that the findings and experience of undergoing this innovative, intensive accreditation evaluation will inform ongoing continuous improvement efforts at the University and as importantly be valuable to institutions with a similar scope and breadth of programs both in the Northwest and nationwide with the aim of enhancing the value and meaning of regional accreditation evaluations in the future.

In addition, the Commission commends the University of Puget Sound for creating a culture for systematically reviewing its performance, identifying areas for improvement and taking steps to address them through planning and budgeting. Moreover, the Commission applauds the University for its highly effective use of discussion formats in the course of conducting assessments, evaluating results and determining appropriate courses of action in curricular and co-curricular areas. Further, the Commission finds noteworthy the University's broad and inclusive process of listening to students, faculty and staff as they assess student learning and engage in continuous improvement.

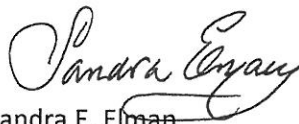
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If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

The Commission looks forward to the University's important participation at NWCCU's October 2017 Summit.

Best wishes for a rewarding 2017-2018 academic year.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra E. Elman". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Sandra E. Elman
President

SEE:rb

cc: ✓ Mr. Martin Jackson, Associate Academic Dean, Professor of Mathematics
Ms. Ellen Peters, Director of Institutional Research and Retention
Mr. Robert C. Pohlada, Board Chair
Dr. Ron Thomas, Former President