

June 30, 2016

We have received the Middle States Commission on Higher Education decision on our reaccreditation. Our accreditation remains valid, but as we had anticipated from the results of our self-study, MSCHE has requested two monitoring reports on Standards 7 and 12, Institutional Effectiveness and General Education, and a subsequent small team site visit. We will have until March 1, 2017, to document that we have achieved compliance and can sustain it.

Our accreditation continues to be valid. As MSCHE says, “when the Commission warns an institution, it believes that, although the institution is out of compliance, the institution has the capacity both to make appropriate improvements within a reasonable period and to sustain itself in the long term.” The follow-up, or monitoring, report and the small team visit are required to demonstrate our improvements and that we have achieved compliance.

Standard 7 focuses on our ability to assess our institution’s programs and services and using that information to improve what we do. Standard 12 focuses on the effectiveness of our general education program and our using learning outcomes to improve general education. The University is already taking steps to meet these standards, as our self-study had already alerted us to the need to improve in these areas.

Over the next several weeks we will work with faculty leadership, administration, and the Office of Assessment and Institutional Research to develop the process for preparing these monitoring reports. I am confident that we will successfully meet the expectations of Middle States and enhance our operations and processes here at FSU. More information will be shared about these efforts in the months ahead. It is my hope that we will all take an interest in being involved through your departments or via other opportunities as we design programs which will not only bring us into compliance with Middle States, but which will enhance our decision-making and educational program for years to come in the changing landscape of higher education.

Sincerely,

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