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July 25, 2012

Dr. Edward Ray  
President  
Oregon State University  
600 Kerr Administration Building  
Corvallis, OR 97331-2128

Dear President ~~Ray~~ <sup>Ed</sup>:

On behalf of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, I am pleased to report that the accreditation of Oregon State University has been reaffirmed on the basis of the Spring 2012 Year One *Mission and Core Themes* Evaluation which was expanded to address Recommendation 2 of the Spring 2011 Comprehensive Peer-Evaluation Report.


In reaffirming accreditation, the Commission requests that the University address Recommendations 1 and 2 of the Spring 2012 Year One *Mission and Core Themes* Peer-Evaluation Report in its Spring 2014 Year Three *Resources and Capacity* Self-Evaluation Report as an updated response to Standard One. A copy of the Recommendations is enclosed for your reference.

In making this request, the Commission finds that Recommendations 1 and 2 of the Spring 2012 Year One *Mission and Core Themes* Peer-Evaluation Report are areas where Oregon State University is substantially in compliance with Commission criteria for accreditation, but in need of improvement.

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

Best wishes for a rewarding academic year.

Sincerely,

  
Sandra E. Elman  
President

SEE:rb

Enclosure: Recommendations

cc: Dr. Rebecca Warner, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

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**Year One *Mission and Core Themes* Peer-Evaluation Report**  
**Spring 2012**  
**Oregon State University**  
**Recommendations**

1. As the institution begins its revisions for the Year Three *Resources and Capacity* Self-Evaluation Report, the evaluators recommend that the University clarify the definition of mission fulfillment and its connection to the core theme indicators, and articulate an acceptable threshold (Standard 1.A.2).
2. As program assessment is systematized and developed, the evaluators recommend that the University incorporate evidence of student learning outcomes data throughout the educational experience and within academic programs into the evaluation of both core themes and mission fulfillment (Standard 1.A.2, 1.B.2).