

September 30, 2014

Dr. Renay M. Scott
President
New Mexico State University-Dona Ana Community College
2800 N. Sonoma Ranch Blvd.
Las Cruces, NM 88011

Dear President Scott:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning New Mexico State University-Dona Ana Community College by the Institutional Actions Council of the Higher Learning Commission at its meeting on September 22, 2014. The date of this action constitutes the effective date of the institution's new status with HLC.

Action with Interim Monitoring. IAC continued the accreditation of New Mexico State University-Dona Ana Community College with the next Reaffirmation of Accreditation in 2023-24. In conjunction with this action, IAC required the following interim monitoring.

- **Focused Visit.** Focused visit in January 2016 on governance, program review and leadership, ethical and responsible conduct, and federal financial aid processes.

Further, IAC requests that the focused visit team address and report on

- Need for Dona Ana to separately report federal compliance statistics
- Dona Ana faculty authority over curriculum and course control and development
- Clarification of relationship of Dona Ana and NMSU with the codification of operations and responsibilities of each entity.

Rationale: The New Mexico community colleges were formerly accredited as a group. Now, they are separate but not completely delinked from New Mexico State University. Certain criteria, such as curriculum authority and complete control over course content and development, could not be determined for Dona Ana as a separate entity. Further, there were questions about the relationship between the NMSU Board of Regents and Dona Ana Advisory Board and President. For example, the President of Dona Ana reports to the Provost at NMSU.

Dona Ana reports that the Department of Education does not recognize Dona Ana as a separate institution. Consequently, reviewing Federal Compliance is difficult because the reports are for NMSU, not Dona Ana. However, the Commission expects Dona Ana to provide independent compliance answers for campus, crime, default rates, etc.

In two weeks, this action will be added to the *Institutional Status and Requirements (ISR) Report*, a resource for Accreditation Liaison Officers to review and manage information regarding the institution's accreditation relationship. Accreditation Liaison Officers may request the ISR Report on HLC's website at <http://www.hlcommission.org/isr-request>.

Information on notifying the public of this action is available at <http://www.hlcommission.org/HLC-Institutions/institutional-reporting-of-actions.html>.

If you have any questions about these documents after viewing them, please contact the institution's staff liaison Steph Brzuy. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Gellman-Danley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'B'.

Barbara Gellman-Danley
President

CC: ALO