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July 15, 2022

Ms. Stephanie Herseth Sandlin
President
Augustana University
2001 S. Summit Avenue
Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57197

Dear President Herseth Sandlin:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning Augustana University by the Institutional Actions Council of the Higher Learning Commission at its meeting on July 11, 2022. 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 Augustana University with the next Reaffirmation of Accreditation in 2031-32. In conjunction with this action, IAC required the following interim monitoring.

Embedded Report. An Embedded Report in the Year 4 Assurance Review regarding assessment. Institution should show the number of academic programs using data for improvement in accordance with the established Augustana Annual Assessment Process Guidelines. Additionally, an assessment plan/process for the evaluation of the newly established co-curricular student outcomes and any early results should be included.

Further, IAC voted to change the team's evaluation of Criterion 5B from "Met with Concerns" to "Met" with no monitoring required.

Rationale: The institution addressed the concerns of the team in its response on the revenue impact of increased enrollment planned to coincide with the resumption of bond debt payments in the 2025-26 fiscal year. The institution will have a Year 4 Assurance Review one year earlier than this monitoring report is scheduled for and it should be possible for the team at that time to review progress towards enrollment goals. Further, the institution presented substantial evidence of planning for alternate scenarios in which enrollment goals are not met that can be instituted incrementally over time. Evidence of such planning includes developing a reserve to fund the first year of debt principal and interest.

In taking this action, the IAC considered materials from the most recent evaluation and the institutional response (if applicable) to the evaluation findings.

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 download the ISR Report on HLC's website at <https://www.hlcommission.org/isr-request>.

Within the next 30 days, HLC will also publish information about this action on its website at <https://www.hlcommission.org/Student-Resources/recent-actions.html>.



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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Gellman-Danley".

Barbara Gellman-Danley
President

CC: ALO