

August 20, 2013

President Jack R. Ohle  
Gustavus Adolphus College  
800 West College Avenue  
Saint Peter, MN 56082-4198

Dear President Ohle:

This letter is formal notification of the action taken concerning Gustavus Adolphus College by the Higher Learning Commission. At its meeting on August 13, 2013, the Institutional Actions Council (IAC) acted on the items below. This letter serves as the official record of this action, and the date of this action constitutes the effective date of your new status with the Commission.

**Action with Interim Monitoring.** IAC continued the accreditation of the Gustavus Adolphus College with the next comprehensive evaluation in 2016-17. A second comprehensive evaluation with Reaffirmation of Accreditation is set for 2022-23. These evaluations reflect the institution's transition to the Commission's new accrediting process, Pathways. In conjunction with this action, IAC required the following interim monitoring.

- **Progress Report.** A Progress Report due 12/31/15 on assessment of student learning (Criterion 4B). The report should address efforts to move assessment from planning stage to systematic implementation of student learning outcomes in both the general education and academic disciplines. The Progress Report should include evidence of data collection processes underway across the institution, including a system for collection and analysis, and evidence that the College is beginning to use the data for program improvement.
- **Monitoring Report.** A Monitoring Report due 12/31/14 on articulation of governance structures. The report should address progress made in addressing the lack of resolution for the long-term structural issue; i.e., the development of governance structures that articulate the roles of the Board, the administration, and the faculty.
- **Progress Report.** A Progress Report due 12/31/16 on institutional changes. The report should address tangible institutional changes that have resulted from the articulation of governance structures; clarity of roles for the Board, administration, and faculty; and transparent and open lines of communication as required in the 12/31/14 progress report.

**Rationale.** IAC concurred with the issues raised by the evaluation team. However, after review of institutional and team documents, the IAC concluded that the concerns surrounding governance structures and processes were just beginning to be resolved and that the newness of the proposed changes related to governance required a monitoring report versus a progress report. In addition, IAC separated the two sections of the second progress report given that one section was due two years after the first. IAC deemed that this second report could remain a progress report and that if more intrusive monitoring was needed, the Commission would make that determination after receipt and review of the 2014 monitoring report. Finally, IAC noted that the institution did not provide additional evidence on continued work as allowed for in an institutional response.

If the current Commission action includes changes to your institution's *Statement of Affiliation Status (SAS)* or *Organizational Profile (OP)*, the changes will appear in these documents on the Commission's Web site within three weeks of the date of action. The *SAS* is a summary of your



Gustavus Adolphus College  
Page 2

institution's ongoing relationship with the Commission. The *OP* is generated from data you provided in your most recent Institutional Update.

If you have questions about these documents after viewing them, please contact Dr. Jeffrey Rosen. Information about notifying the public of this action is found in Chapter 8.3-3 and 8.3-4 of the *Handbook of Accreditation, Third Edition*, available at <http://ncahlc.org/Information-for-Institutions/institutional-reporting-of-actions.html>.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I thank you and your associates for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sylvia Manning".

Sylvia Manning  
President