



February 23, 2024

230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500
Chicago, IL 60604
312.263.0456 | 800.621.7440
Fax: 312.263.7462 | hlcommission.org

Dr. Sam Smith
President
York University
1125 E. 8th S.
York, NE 68467-2699

Dear President Smith:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning York University (the institution) by the Institutional Actions Council (IAC) of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) at its meeting on February 20, 2024. The date of this action constitutes the effective date of the institution's new status with HLC.

Action. IAC continued the accreditation of York University with the next Reaffirmation of Accreditation in 2033-34.

Further, IAC voted to change the team's evaluation of Criterion 3A from "Met with Concerns" to "Met" with no monitoring required.

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

Rationale: The visiting team report indicates that the institution made significant progress in all areas mentioned as an emphasis in the comprehensive visit.

In its response the institution provides evidence of its progress in the following areas:

Changes to catalog and website content, including definitions for "major, minor, & concentration."

Developing and publishing specific SLO for cyber security, accounting, and general studies.

IAC determined the visiting team's concerns related to core component 3A more appropriately align with core component 4B. The team's requirements for more specific learning outcomes are too prescriptive, given the institution's unique academic organization and size. Referring to the team report in core component 4B the institution was commended for a thriving assessment program that meets its needs and meets HLC's 4B requirements. Requiring unnecessary distinctions regarding majors, concentrations, and areas of study does not acknowledge the institution's unique academic organization. The institution does have "distinctive learning outcomes unique to each area of study," as further communicated in the institutional response.

Further, visiting team acknowledges that the institution has made significant progress in either completing the requirements identified in the visit description or is very close to completing them. The institution has made good progress in addressing the identified visit's concerns, and all indications are that it will continue to make progress as appropriate. No further monitoring is required at this time.

In two weeks, this action will be added to the *Institutional Status and Requirements (ISR) Report*, a resource for the institution to review and manage information regarding its accreditation relationship. Chief Executive Officers and Accreditation Liaison Officers may download the ISR Report in Canopy at <https://canopy.hlcommission.org>.

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>.

York University
Page 2

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Barbara Gellman-Danley".

Barbara Gellman-Danley
President

cc: Shannon Leinen, Accreditation Liaison Officer
Steph Brzuzy, HLC Staff Liaison