



December 23, 2013

President Sherry Allison
Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute
P.O. Box 10146 9169 Coors Rd NW
Albuquerque NM 87184

Dear President Allison:

Subsequent to the December 16, 2013 meeting of the Institutional Actions Council (“IAC”), I am enclosing the IAC Hearing Committee’s report of its recommendation regarding Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute. This recommendation, along with the recommendation of the evaluation team that visited your institution, will be forwarded to the Higher Learning Commission (“the Commission”) Board of Trustees for review and for action at its next meeting. That meeting is scheduled for **February 27-28, 2014**.

The Board makes the final decision in all cases where the Commission has conducted an evaluation for candidacy, initial accreditation or removal of a sanction. In addition, the Board makes the final decision when an evaluation team, an IAC Hearing Committee or the Commission President has recommended a sanction or withdrawal or denial of accreditation or candidacy. Prior to the next scheduled Board meeting, the Board receives from the Commission office the full record related to the evaluation including, but not limited to, the self-study and supporting documents submitted by the institution; the report from the evaluation team; the report of the IAC Hearing Committee; and institutional responses filed by the institution prior to the IAC Hearing Committee and any institutional responses filed subsequent to this letter. The Board also has access to the institution's previous evaluation history and Commission actions taken concerning the institution.

The Board may adopt one of the recommendations previously arising out of the evaluation process, with or without modification, or the Board may adopt a different recommendation. Although the team and the IAC Hearing Committee have recommended initial accreditation, in determining its action the Board may also consider other options available in Commission policy, including denial of initial accreditation or extension of candidacy. (See Commission policy INST.E.60.010 for more information about denial and INST.B.20.010 for more information about extension of candidacy.)

You will receive a letter outlining the Board’s action subsequent to the conclusion of the Board meeting. The [Guidance on Procedures Following Commission Board Actions](#) provides further information to assist you in preparing for the Board’s action.

I ask that you provide your response to the IAC recommendation no later than **January 10, 2014**. You should also provide by that date any additional materials that you wish to offer for the Board's consideration. This response, along with all the other documents in the review, become part of the Commission's official file and will be available to the next team that visits the institution. The evaluation team through the team chair is also asked to respond to the IAC recommendation, and its response will be shared with the Board.

If you wish further information, please contact your staff liaison, Andrew C. Lootens-White.

I appreciate your cooperation in this process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sylvia Manning". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sylvia Manning
President

Enclosure