March 02, 2016

Dr. Eileen Aranda
President
Claremont Lincoln University
250 W. First Street, Suite 330
Claremont, CA 91711

Dear Dr. Aranda:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning Claremont Lincoln University (CLU) by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) at its meeting February 17-19, 2016. This action was taken after consideration of the report of the review team that conducted the Special Visit (which functioned as a Seeking Accreditation Visit (SAV) 2) to CLU December 2-4, 2015. The Commission also reviewed the institutional report and exhibits submitted by the university prior to the Special Visit and the institution’s December 2015 response to the team report. The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the review with you and your colleagues: David Lincoln, Chair, Board of Trustees, and Darrell Ezell, Director. Your comments were very helpful in informing the Commission’s deliberations. The date of this action constitutes the effective date of the institution’s new status with WSCUC.

Actions

1. Receive the Special Visit (SAV 2) report
2. Grant Initial Accreditation for a period of six years
3. Schedule the Offsite Review for fall 2021 and the Accreditation Visit for spring 2022
4. Schedule the Mid-Cycle Review for spring 2019
5. Schedule a Special Visit in fall 2018 to address the following:
   a. Continued progress in sustaining and diversifying revenue streams, including from fund raising and the deployment of certificate programs
   b. Progress towards, or completion of, the planned program review
   c. Continued development of the Capstone Action Projects and the related Centers with a view to providing additional research opportunities and to more broadly engage with the University’s extended community
Commendations

The Commission commends Claremont Lincoln University in particular for the following:

1. Claremont Lincoln University is to be commended for leveraging the past year to great institutional advantage in furthering the maturation and expansion of the institution.

2. Claremont Lincoln University is to be commended for advancing the Institutional Research structure and the related integration of software packages to gather, analyze, and disseminate quantitative and qualitative data to demonstrate educational effectiveness.

3. Claremont Lincoln University is to be commended for the development of e-portfolios and the reformulation of its Capstone Action Projects to reflect a more rigorous research environment for faculty and students.

Recommendations

The Commission identifies the following issue for further development.

1. The university should continue its efforts to expand its sources of revenue including through fund raising, the deployment of its certificate programs, and other initiatives as appropriate (CFR 3.4).

By granting Initial Accreditation, the Commission confirms that Claremont Lincoln University has satisfactorily addressed the Core Commitments to Student Learning and Success; Quality and Improvement; and Institutional Integrity, Sustainability, and Accountability and is found to be in substantial compliance with WSCUC’s 2103 Standards of Accreditation. Between this action and the time of the next review, the institution is expected to maintain its compliance with WSCUC Standards and uphold its commitment to continuous quality improvement.

Accreditation status is not granted retroactively. Institutions granted the status of accreditation must use the following statement if they wish to describe the status publicly:

Claremont Lincoln University is accredited by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC), 985 Atlantic Avenue, Suite 100, Alameda, CA 94501, 510.748.9001.

The accredited status of a program should not be misrepresented. The accreditation granted by WSCUC refers to the quality of the institution as a whole. Because institutional accreditation does not imply specific accreditation of any particular program at the institution, statements such as “this program is accredited” or “this degree is accredited” are incorrect and misleading. The phrase “fully accredited” is also to be avoided, since no partial accreditation is possible.

The Commission stipulates that this action encompasses the degrees offered by Claremont Lincoln University at the time of this action, as listed at the end of this letter as the Consolidated List of Currently Offered Degrees. In keeping with the WSCUC Policy on Degree Level Approval,
Claremont Lincoln University is designated as having an "I" (Individual) status for each of the degree levels currently being offered. This means that all new degree programs initiated by the institution will require prior approval through WSCUC's Substantive Change process. Degree programs that have been reviewed and included under this action may be extended to other currently approved campuses of the institution without prior Substantive Change action. Offerings at new locations may need to go through Substantive Change approval, in accordance with the requirements stated in the Substantive Change manual.

In accordance with Commission policy, a copy of this letter will be sent to the chair of the Claremont Lincoln University governing board in one week. The Commission expects that the team report and this action letter will be posted in a readily accessible location on the CLU website and widely disseminated throughout the institution to promote further engagement and improvement and to support the institution's response to the specific issues identified in these documents. The team report and the Commission's action letter will also be posted on the WSCUC website. If the institution wishes to respond to the Commission action on its own website, WSCUC will post a link to that response on the WSCUC website.

Finally, the Commission wishes to express its appreciation for the extensive work that Claremont Lincoln University undertook in preparing for and supporting this accreditation review. WSCUC is committed to an accreditation process that adds value to institutions while assuring public accountability, and we are grateful for your continued support of this process. Please contact me if you have any questions about this letter or the action of the Commission.

Sincerely,

Mary Ellen Petrisko
President

CC: William Ladusaw, WSCUC Commission Chair
    Stephanie Vamon-Hughes, ALO
    David Lincoln, Board Chair
    Members of the Special Visit team
    Christopher Oberg, WSCUC Vice President and CLU Staff Liaison

**Consolidated List of Currently Conferred Degrees by Claremont Lincoln University**

1. Master of Arts in Ethical Leadership
2. Master of Arts in Social Impact
3. Master of Arts in Interfaith Action