

February 27, 2025

Dr. Gary May  
Chancellor  
University of California, Davis  
One Shields Avenue  
Davis, CA 95616

Dear Chancellor May:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning the University of California, Davis (UCD) by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) at its meeting February 14, 2025. This action was taken after consideration of the report of the review team that conducted the Thematic Pathway for Reaffirmation (TPR) Accreditation Visit to UCD October 29 – November 1, 2025, using the 2023 Standards of Accreditation. The Commission also reviewed the institutional report and exhibits submitted by UCD prior to the Accreditation Visit, and the institution's January 26, 2025, response to the team report. The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the visit with you and your colleagues Mary Croughan, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor, Michael Bradford, Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education, Ari Kelman, Interim ALO and Faculty Advisor to the Chancellor and Provost, and Jason Stewart, Chief of Staff to the Provost. 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 Accreditation Visit team report
2. Reaffirm accreditation for a period of ten years
3. Schedule the next reaffirmation review with the Offsite Review in spring 2034 and the Accreditation Visit in fall 2034
4. Schedule a Progress Report to be submitted by November 1, 2028, documenting how National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) assessment findings, analysis of institutional student data, and ongoing program evaluation have been used to enhance academic advising services

### **Commendations**

The Commission commends the institution for the following:

1. Creating a culture of shared purpose, professional pride, and inclusive belonging that fosters active engagement and shared governance across the university.
2. Advancing institutional transparency by making budgetary processes and data

accessible through websites, dashboards, and informational videos.

3. Exceeding growth targets under the 2020 Initiative while improving overall graduation rates and reducing achievement gaps across its student populations.
4. Developing and embedding effective institutionally initiated and designed DEI practices across the university through collaborative education programs and partnerships.
5. Leveraging comprehensive data analytics and evidence-based practices to advance institutional excellence and accelerate gains in student achievement.
6. Demonstrating robust institutional commitment to global education through international partnerships, cross-cultural programs, and dedicated support for international students.
7. Achieving recognition as a Hispanic-Serving Institution.

### **Areas for Development**

The Commission requires the institution to respond to the following areas for development:

1. Strengthen the organization's technological infrastructure by modernizing information systems, upgrading facilities, and implementing solutions that enhance operational efficiency, mitigate risks, and create a scalable foundation to support future growth and operational demands. (CFR 3.6)
2. Implement support systems - including strategic staffing plans, resource allocation frameworks, and workload management tools - to address faculty and staff strains and capacity challenges driven by enrollment growth from the 2020 Initiative. (CFRs 3.1, 3.2)
3. Optimize academic advising services by leveraging National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) assessment findings, analyzing student performance data, and conducting systematic program evaluations to accelerate student success and ensure timely degree completion. (CFR 2.12)

In taking this action to reaffirm accreditation, the Commission confirmed that UCD completed the Thematic Pathway for Reaffirmation institutional review process conducted under the 2023 Standards of Accreditation. In keeping with WSCUC values, UCD should strive for ongoing improvement with adherence to all Standards of Accreditation and their associated CFRs to foster a learning environment that continuously strives for educational excellence and operational effectiveness.

In accordance with Commission policy, a copy of this letter is being sent to the chair of UCD's governing board. A copy of this letter is also being sent to President Michael Drake, University of California. The Commission expects that the team report and this action letter will be posted in a readily accessible location on UCD's website and widely distributed 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 the University of California, Davis undertook in preparing for the accreditation review. WSCUC is committed to an accreditation process that adds value to institutions while contributing to public accountability, and we thank you 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "CNOberg". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Christopher N. Oberg  
Interim President

CNO/bgd

Cc: Tracy Poon Tambascia, Commission Chair  
Ari Kelman, ALO  
Janet Reilly, Board Chair  
Michael Drake, President, University of California  
Members of the TPR Accreditation Visit Team  
Barbara Gross Davis, Vice President