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TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-COMMERCE
P.O. Box 3011
Commerce, Texas 75429

Most Recent Committee Visit: February 10-13, 2003

First Follow-Up Report

Submitted September 20, 2004

Prepared By

Dr. James R. McBroom
Assistant to the President for Planning and Institutional Effectiveness,
Self-Study Director
Dr. Keith D. McFarland  
President  
Texas A&M University-Commerce  
Business Administration Building  
Commerce, TX 75429-3011  

Dear Dr. McFarland:

The following action regarding your institution was taken at the December 2003 meeting of the Commission on Colleges:

The Commission reaffirmed accreditation with a request for a Follow-Up Report due September 22, 2004, addressing the visiting committee's recommendations cited in the following sections of the Principles:

**Section 3.3.1 (Institutional Effectiveness), Recommendation 1**  
Provide an update concerning the implementation and review of the new evaluation system scheduled for deployment in fall 2004.

**Section 3.3.1 (Institutional Effectiveness), Recommendation 2**  
The concern in this section involved the equivalency of student learning between the traditional and off-campus programs of study. The institution is asked to demonstrate the quality of student achievement in these two types of learning environments.

**Section 3.5.1 (Educational Programs: Undergraduate Programs), Recommendation 3**  
Provide evidence that the action plan showing graduates of degree programs are competent in the basic use of computers has been fully implemented and evaluated.

**Section 3.4.1 (Educational Programs: All Educational Programs), Recommendation 4**  
Document that a plan to review and the graduate curriculum has been implemented and evaluated.

**Section 3.3.1 (Institutional Effectiveness), Recommendation 5**  
Provide evidence that the orientation and advisement programs are regularly evaluated and that the results are used to enhance student services.
As you know, the *Principles of Accreditation* became effective January 1, 2004. The Commission's December 2003 actions were taken under the *Criteria for Accreditation*. The above action requiring a future report refers to the applicable section of the *Principles*. (An abbreviated copy of the *Principles* is enclosed for your reference.)

Guidelines for the additional report also are enclosed. Because it is essential that institutions follow these guidelines, please make certain that those responsible for preparing the report receive them. If they have questions about the format, contact the Commission staff member assigned to your institution. When submitting your report, please send the original and three copies to your Commission staff member.

Please note that Federal regulations and Commission policy stipulate that an institution must remedy deficiencies within two years following the Commission's initial action on the institution. At the end of that two-year period, if the institution is not in compliance with the *Principles of Accreditation*, representatives from the institution may be required to appear before the Commission, or one of its standing committees, to answer questions as to why the institution should not be removed from membership. If the Commission determines good cause at that time, the Commission may extend the period for coming into compliance for a minimum of six months and a maximum of two years and must place the institution on Probation. If the Commission does not determine good cause, the institution must be removed from membership. (See enclosed Commission policy "Sanctions, Denial of Reaffirmation, and Removal from Membership.")

We appreciate your continued support of the activities of the Commission on Colleges. If you have questions, please contact the staff member assigned to your institution.

Sincerely,

James T. Rogers
Executive Director
Commission on Colleges

JTR:cp

Enclosures

cc: Dr. Rudolph S. Jackson