



August 29, 2016

Dr. Belle S. Wheelan, President
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
Commission on Colleges
1866 Southern Lane
Decatur, GA 30033-4097

Dear Dr. Wheelan:

As required by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) *Substantive Change for SACSCOC Accredited Institutions*, policy statement, we are writing to provide notification that Texas A&M University-Commerce has entered into a dual degree arrangement with a foreign institution not accredited by SACSCOC. An agreement with Namseoul University, Chonan, Republic of Korea, was signed by both institutions on October 6, 2015; a copy of the agreement has been provided with this letter.

SACSCOC policy for *Agreements Involving Joint and Dual Academic Awards*, describes a dual degree arrangement as:

An agreement by two or more institutions to grant dual academic awards is one whereby students study at two or more institutions and each institution grants a separate academic award bearing only its name, seal, and signature.

The terms of A&M-Commerce's agreement with Namseoul University were guided by this policy statement, with both institutions awarding separate academic awards to their students who have met the graduation requirements of their home institution. Additionally, A&M-Commerce will continue to comply with SACSCOC Principles 3.5.2, 3.5.4, and 3.7.1 of the *Principles of Accreditation*.

Please accept this letter as notification of our intent to implement the terms of the agreement with Namseoul University beginning immediately (August 29, 2016).

For questions or additional information regarding this matter, please contact Dr. Shonda Gibson, SACSCOC Accreditation Liaison, (Shonda.gibson@tamuc.edu, (903) 886-5743).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Ray M. Keck III'.

Ray M. Keck, III, Ph.D.
Interim President

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Dr. Mary Kirk, Vice President, SACSCOC
Dr. John Humphreys, Interim Provost and VP for Academic Affairs
Dr. Shonda Gibson, Executive Director for Institutional Effectiveness and Research

Office of the President

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