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UH-WEST OAHU
CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

Gene Awakuni
Chancellor
University of Hawaii - West Oahu
96-129 Ala Ike
Pearl City, HI 96782

Dear Gene:

Thank you for your letter of May 12 and the summary of our April 7 phone call regarding the focus of the Special Visit scheduled for fall 2008. It is an accurate summary with the addendum that we would want to see further progress with learning assessments and the use of data for improvement as part of our overall emphasis on educational effectiveness in addition to the attention to the capstone experience mentioned in the letter.

In addition, we will look forward to working with you on the substantive change as you move to introduce the lower division to the campus.

I also appreciated your remarks about the Annual Meeting. We are pleased that it serves the region so effectively.

Sincerely,

Ralph A. Wolff
Executive Director

RW/lw

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UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII—WEST O'AHU

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

May 12, 2005

Dr. Ralph A. Wolff
Executive Director
Western Association of Schools and Colleges
985 Atlantic Avenue, Suite 100
Alameda, CA 94501

Dear Ralph:

Thank you and Lily for taking the time to clarify the issues we need to address during the upcoming Special Visit currently scheduled for Fall 2008. This letter is intended to convey to you our understanding of the specific focus of the Special Visit which is based both on our reading of your action letter of March 2, 2005, and our phone conversation of April 7.

We perceive that WASC via the Special Visit would like to see in 2008 that we have been able to sustain the progress that was observed by the team during the most recent review cycle. Specifically, our preparation for the visit will be focused on the following issues.

- A) Financial Viability – We will provide evidence of the University of Hawai'i system and legislative support for our campus. We plan to include a financial status report of UHWO as of the middle of the next biennium (The State of Hawai'i budgets on a two year cycle). Other information such as the increased amount of permanent general funds that have been added to our budget over the last three years will also be provided.
- B) Leadership Transition – Since both the Chancellor and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs have changed since the last WASC visit, we will focus on the stability, status, and accomplishments of those two key administrative positions.
- C) Academic Development – We will discuss the status of our academic planning process including both the on-campus and distance education programs. Issues raised in the earlier Learning Effectiveness visit such as establishing a more rigorous capstone experience for our students will be addressed as well.

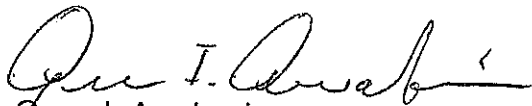
Dr. Ralph A. Wolff
May 12, 2005
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As I mentioned during our phone conversation, we have stepped up the planning for the freshman and sophomore years and thus expect to transition to full four-year baccalaureate institution status sooner than we had previously reported. We know that this triggers a Substantive Change review. Joe Mobley, interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, has already been in contact with Christy Jones to insure that we are abiding by the Substantive Change guidelines. We plan to get on the docket for committee review in early 2006.

Please let me know if there are any questions about what is contained in this letter.

Finally, I would be remiss if I didn't mention how much I enjoyed the San Diego conference. You and your team did a wonderful job of putting together speakers and workshops that both provoked us to think about what we do in new ways and dealt with the issues at the forefront of higher education. Thanks for your vision Ralph.

Sincerely,


Gene I. Awakuni
Chancellor

xc: David McClain
Lily Owyang
Linda Johnsrud
Joseph Mobley Jr.