

March 3, 2025

Dr. Astrid Tuminez President Utah Valley University 800 West University Parkway Orem, UT 84058

Dear President Tuminez:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) at its meeting on January 28-31, 2025, concerning the Fall 2024 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness of Utah Valley University.

## Accreditation

**Reaffirm Accreditation** 

## Status of Previous Recommendations Addressed in this Evaluation

• Finding Type 1: Fall 2023 Policies, Regulations, and Financial Review - Fulfilled

## Commendations

The Commission commends Utah Valley University for:

- 1. Campus wide commitment to the institutional mission with a focus on exceptional care for all students.
- 2. The good work the institution has done on planning, resourcing, and purposefully increasing retention and completion and specifically, of first-generation students.
- 3. A well written self-study and an administrative structure that is driving the institution toward mission fulfilment.
- 4. Their Stewardship (PBA) process which is public and provides incredibly transparent financial accountability.
- 5. Despite a complex landscape, UVU continues to focus on meeting the needs of all of its diverse student populations.

# Recommendations Substantially in Compliance but in Need of Improvement

The Commission recommends that Utah Valley University:

- Recommendation 1: Fall 2024 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness Develop a widely available system of data that is accessible, reliable, and transparent across the organization. All levels of the institution should use this data for ongoing and systematic evaluation and planning to inform and refine its effectiveness, for assignment of resources, and to improve student learning and achievement. (2020 Standard(s) 1.B.1)
- Recommendation 2: Fall 2024 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness Fully implement a system of essential learning outcomes (ELOs) and/or general education outcomes that are aligned, assessed, and used to demonstrate continuous improvement in student learning. (2020 Standard(s) 1.C.6)
- Recommendation 3: Fall 2024 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness Systematically measure all program learning outcomes and use the results of this assessment effort to inform and improve both academic planning and student learning outcomes. (2020 Standard(s) 1.C.7)

# **Future Evaluations**

- Ad Hoc Report with Virtual Visit Fall 2026
  - Recommendation 1: Fall 2024 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
- Mid-Cycle Review Fall 2027

- o Recommendation 2: Fall 2024 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
- Recommendation 3: Fall 2024 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
- Year 6 Standard 2 Policies, Regulations, and Financial Review Fall 2030
- Year 7 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness Fall 2031

NWCCU 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. If you have questions about any of the information in this letter, please contact your staff liaison, Dr. Teresa Rivenes, at trivenes@nwccu.org.

Sincerely,

Jeff Fox Interim President

 cc: Dr. Laurie Sharp, Senior Associate Provost for Academic Programs, Assessment, and Accreditation Mr. Rick Nielsen, Superintendent for Nebo School District
Dr. Christian Wuthrich, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs & Dean of Students, Boise State University

Mr. Geoffrey Landward, Commissioner, Utah System of Higher Education