



June 3, 2015

Mr. Thomas R. Case Chancellor University of Alaska Anchorage 3211 Providence Drive Anchorage, AK 99508

Dear Chancellor Case:

This is in reply to your correspondence dated February 23, 2015, and received in our office on February 25, 2015, requesting approval from the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) for University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) to merge the accreditation of Prince William Sound Community College (PWSCC) into the University's accreditation resulting in the realignment of PWSCC as one of four community campuses of the University of Alaska Anchorage. Prince William Sound Community College will be formally renamed as Prince William Sound College (PWSC) and the College will no longer be a separately accredited institution. As a UAA community campus, Prince William Sound College and its two extension centers located in Cordova, Alaska, and Glennallen, Alaska, will benefit from administrative efficiencies and will have access to additional resources and services. Over a three-year period, the academic courses and academic programs of PWSC will be revised to align to similar courses and programs of UAA. Academic program assessment processes will also be aligned as well as policies, fees, publications, and other educational processes. Moreover, faculty of PWSC will now have the opportunity to serve as elected members of UAA's Faculty Senate. In addition, the PWSC community campus will be included within UAA's budget submission to the University of Alaska System and Board of Regents. Notably, PWSC will maintain its unique mission assuming an alignment with UAA's mission, however, PWSC will adopt UAA's core themes and their associated measures of mission fulfillment.

Insofar as the merging of the accreditation of PWSCC into UAA's accreditation is coherent with the mission of UAA, and in accordance with Commission Policy, *Substantive Change*, the proposal submitted for the merging of PWSCC's accreditation into UAA's accreditation has been reviewed and approved as a *substantive change*. In approving this proposal, the renamed Prince William Sound College is identified as a fourth community campus of UAA and is now included under the accreditation of University of Alaska Anchorage.

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Thank you for keeping the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities apprised of the developments and initiatives at the University of Alaska Anchorage. If you have questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Pamela J. Goad Vice President

PJG:pg

cc: Ms. Megan Carlson, Assistant Vice Provost

Dr. Sandra E. Elman, President, NWCCU