California State University SAN MARCOS

Office of the President

Date: July 12, 2016

To: Campus Community

From: Karen S. Haynes President

Subject: WASC Decision on Reaccreditation

We have received the final decision from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) on the reaffirmation of accreditation for California State University San Marcos, and I am pleased to report that CSUSM has been reaccredited for a term of ten years. This is the maximum length of time that can be awarded. The Commission has scheduled CSUSM's next accreditation visit for spring 2026. In the meantime, CSUSM will complete a Progress Report on the recommendations in the Commission Letter and a Mid-Cycle Review as required by WASC in spring 2021.

In its formal notification letter, the Commission commended CSUSM on successfully addressing the challenges of the last decade with a creative entrepreneurial spirit and institutional pride. In addition, WASC praised the University for the development and early implementation of a robust and sophisticated program review process, well-crafted University Learning Outcomes, student affairs assessment practices of scaffolding student learning outcomes upward through university level outcomes, and professional development programs such as Campus Connect, development of professional competencies in Student Affairs and programming in the Faculty Center.

While we celebrate this success, we know that we must continually seek improvement for our students and community. To that end, the Commission has identified five recommendations for further development. I invite you to read the entire letter and complete report <u>online</u>.

This reaccreditation process was a multi-year endeavor and I want to particularly thank Regina Eisenbach, dean of academic programs and our accreditation liaison officer, for shepherding us through this process. In addition, I'd like to convey appreciation to the WASC Steering Committee for their leadership on the Institutional Report writing process: Glen Brodowsky, Tracey Brown, Melanie Chu, Dilcie Perez, Patricia Prado-Olmos, and Melissa Simnitt – along with Chuck Allen and Martha Stoddard-Holmes who helped with finalizing the Institutional Report. Finally, many thanks to the writing teams and all the other faculty and staff who contributed to this accomplishment. Through your efforts we told our story well and have demonstrated that we provide an excellent and innovative learning environment. We are well positioned to build on our success moving forward.