



University of the Virgin Islands

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Office of the President

February 27, 2009

Dr. Peter F. Burnham, Chair
Middle States Commission on Higher Education
3624 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104-2680

Subject: University of the Virgin Islands' Monitoring Report

Dear Dr. Burnham:

Pursuant to a meeting of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE), a letter dated November 16, 2007 was received by the University of the Virgin Islands (UVI) on the status of its application for reaffirmation of accreditation. The letter, which included Statement of Accreditation Status (SAS) attachment, requested a monitoring report, due March 1, 2009, documenting (1) steps taken to strengthen shared governance (Standard 4), (2) progress in the implementation of the new administrative structure and reorganization (Standard 5), and (3) steps taken to improve communication to all campus constituencies regarding shared governance and the new administrative structure (Standards 4 and 5).

Prior to the submission of this Monitoring Report, the University met the deadline for submitting a Progress letter by April 1, 2008 as well as two subsequent updates documenting the development and implementation of a faculty handbook that includes policies related to promotion and tenure (Standard 10). The progress letters were submitted in March, September and November, 2008. As part of this Monitoring Report, the University is pleased to submit, as an attachment, the 2008 Faculty Policy Manual which was approved by the University's Board of Trustees at its November 1, 2008 meeting.

Work on addressing the three areas identified for the University to document steps taken to strengthen shared governance; implement the new administrative structure and reorganization; and, improve communication to all campus constituencies has been ongoing since 2007. The enclosed document substantiates the work undertaken by the University to address these areas over the past two years and responds to MSCHE's requirement that a Monitoring Report be submitted by March 1, 2009.

We appreciate the opportunity to apprise you of our progress and look forward to receiving a favorable response from MSCHE. We stand ready to respond to any inquiries regarding this transmittal.

Sincerely,

LaVerne E. Ragster, Ph.D.
President

pc: Alexander Moorhead, Chair, UVI Board of Trustees
Andrea Lex, Ph.D., MSCHE Liaison

Enclosures (2)