

**SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS
COMMISSION ON COLLEGES**

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January 10, 2003

Dr. Franklyn G. Jenifer
President
The University of Texas at Dallas
P. O. Box 830688, AD 22
Richardson, TX 75083-0688

Dear Dr. Jenifer:

The following action regarding your institution was taken at the December 2002 meeting of the Commission on Colleges:

The Commission reviewed the institution's First Progress Report following the review of on-line degrees offered in part or entirely: M.B.A., M.S. in Computer Science (conferred with Graduate Telecommunications Engineering Certificate), and the M.S. in Electrical Engineering (conferred with Graduate Telecommunications Engineering Certificate). The institution is requested to submit a Second Progress Report due September 22, 2003, addressing recommendations cited in the following sections of the *Criteria*:

Section 3.1 (Planning and Evaluation: Educational Programs), Recommendation 1

Provide evidence that the institution has defined the expected educational results of the M.B.A. Online degree program and that the methods for analyzing the results are in place.

Section 4.3.5 (Graduate Instruction), Recommendation 4

Provide detailed information concerning the number and types of on-line faculty/student and student peer interactions. Summary statements in this regard are not sufficient.

Section 4.3.2 (Graduate Admission), Recommendation 7

Provide evidence that the admissions policies for the M.B.A. Online degree program are evaluated on a regular basis.

Section 4.3.3 (Graduate Completion Requirements), Recommendation 9A

Demonstrate that course evaluations are conducted, including an overall assessment, that examine the effectiveness of the M.B.A. Online degree program itself.

Section 4.5 (Distance Learning Programs), Recommendation 11

Provide evidence that the goals and effectiveness of the M.B.A. Online degree program are evaluated on a regular basis and that the results of this assessment are used to improve instruction and student services.



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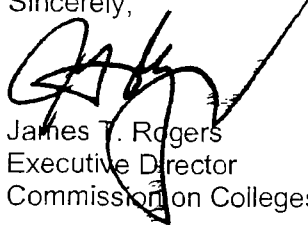
The above action indicates a need for a future report. Guidelines for this report are enclosed. Because it is essential that institutions follow these guidelines, **please make certain that those responsible for preparing the report receive them. If they have questions about the format, contact the Commission staff member assigned to your institution.** When submitting reports, please send **four copies** to your Commission staff member.

Please note that with submission of this report, your institution will have submitted monitoring reports for a period of two years. Federal regulations and Commission policy stipulate that if an institution is not in compliance with the *Criteria for Accreditation* within two years following the Commission's initial action on the institution, representatives from the institution may be required to appear for an interview with the Commission, or one of its standing committees, to answer questions as to why the institution should not be removed from membership. If the Commission determines good cause at that time, the Commission may extend the period for coming into compliance for a minimum of six months and a maximum of two years and must place the institution on Probation. If the Commission does not determine good cause, the institution must be removed from membership. (See enclosed Commission policies "Follow-Up Reports, Sanctions, and Removal From Membership.") **Please note that institutions at the end of their two-year monitoring period should also include evidence supporting the conditions of "good cause" as described in the above referenced document.**

Because the two-year period for your institution will conclude in December 2003, please be aware that you and other representatives from your institution may be requested to appear for an interview at that meeting of the Committee on Criteria and Reports. Further, you may wish to notify the chair of your board of the Federal regulations and Commission policies as they relate to your institution.

We appreciate your continued support of the activities of the Commission on Colleges. If you have questions, please contact the staff member assigned to your institution.

Sincerely,



James T. Rogers
Executive Director
Commission on Colleges

JTR:bjm

Enclosures

cc: Dr. Rudolph S. Jackson