Western Association of Schools & Colleges Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges & Universities



June 24, 2005

State University - North Chair RECEIVED North Consideration of Chair State University, Fremo Office of Undergraduate Studies

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Margaret Fieweger Associate Vice President, Undergraduate Studies California State University, Northridge 18111 Nordhoff Street Northridge, CA 91330-8203

Dear Margaret:

A Panel of the Substantive Change Committee met June 23, 2005, to review the Substantive Change Proposal for a Systems Review Request and Off-campus Proposal for an MPA program in the City of Industry more than 25 miles away from the University's main campus in Northridge, California. On behalf of the Panel, I would like to express my appreciation to Joyce Feucht-Haviar, Dean College of Extended Learning; Henrik Minassians, MPA Cohort Director; Tyler Blake, Distance Learning Director; Michael Weaver, Director of Academic and Finance; Paul Krivonos, Public Scctor Management Director; and you for being available to discuss the Proposal with the Panel. Your comments were particularly helpful.

As indicated in my e-mail of June 23, 2005, the Panel acted to approve the proposal for the Systems Review for Off-Campus and On-Line Programs. The Panel also acted to approve the proposal for a Master of Public Administration to be offered in City of Industry, a location more than 25 miles from the CSU Northridge campus. The Panel understood that the MPA Program is to be offered at a site provided by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Social Services and is expected to begin August 2005. The projected number of students is to be cohorts of 25 - 28 maximum. The target student population is postbaccalaureate, mid-career professionals who have at least two years of work experience in the public, private, or non-profit sector. The program is expected to operate August 2005 through July 2007. Courses are offered in a regular 12-week scheduling format: Fridays from 9 am to 5 pm with one class in the morning and one in the afternoon.

The CSUN approach to off-campus and on-line programs involves determining regional needs based on requests for programs received from employers and the Adjunct American Director results of marketing studies by the CSUN marketing unit. Programs offered off- Edy S. Owyang Adjunct Associate Director

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campus are subject to the same quality assurance policies and procedures already in place. The programs are offered in a cohort format. As demonstrated by the excellent proposals that have been approved by panels of the Substantive Change Committee, the University has a system in place that organizes its instruction around clear sets of objectives, program development, and sufficient resources to fully implement the program.

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The Panel's approval means that CSU Northridge may submit proposals for off-campus and on-line programs directly to WASC staff. Proposals reviewed under the expedited review process require a brief report describing the new site, arrangements with the cooperation agencies, if appropriate, and courses designated to be offered. Budget information, including projected revenues and expenses, should be included. Available marketing materials may be included as appendices to the report. Topic areas addressed in the Systems Review proposal that are more relevant to institutional context, such as accreditation history, program need and planning approval processes need not be resubmitted for each additional expedited report.

Further, because expedited reports are reviewed and approved by WASC staff, the University does not need to submit an application form to schedule a review of the report. You may send each future report for an expedited review directly to Christic Jones, Substantive Change Program Manager. The assigned Associate Director and she will review the report together. Once the report has been reviewed and has been found to be within the context of the approved Systems Review, the site visit to the off-campus location will be waived.

Please accept my hearty congratulations for gaining approval for the Systems Review, as well as of the MPA program at City of Industry. I have no doubt that the Systems Review will fit your need for rapid program implementation.

Margaret, it's been a real pleasure working with you. I genuinely wish your husband and you the very best in your retirement.

Sincerely,

Gregory M. Scott Associate Director

Cc: Jolene Koester, President

Harold Hewitt, Member of the Substantive Change Committee Panel Les Kong, Member of the Substantive Change Committee Panel Gary Matkin, Member of the Substantive Change Committee Panel