

July 20, 2018

Dr. David Carlisle  
President  
Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science  
1731 E. 120th Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90059

Dear President Carlisle:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science (CDU) by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) at its meeting June 27-29, 2018. This action was taken after consideration of the report of the review team that conducted the Accreditation Visit to CDU, March 14-16, 2018. The Commission also reviewed the institutional report and exhibits submitted by CDU prior to the Offsite Review (OSR), the supplemental materials requested by the team after the OSR, and the institution's May 15, 2018 response to the team report. The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the visit with you and your colleagues: Dr. Steve Michael, Executive Vice President & Provost and Dr. William Shay, Assistant Provost & ALO. Your comments were very helpful in informing the Commission's deliberations. The date of this action constitutes the effective date of the institution's new status with WSCUC.

### **Actions**

1. Receive the Accreditation Visit team report.
2. Reaffirm accreditation for a period of ten years.
3. Schedule the next reaffirmation review with the Offsite Review in fall 2027 and the Accreditation Visit in spring 2028.
4. Schedule the Mid-Cycle Review to begin May 1, 2023.
5. Schedule an Interim Report to be submitted by March 1, 2021 to address an update on the progress of the strategic plan.

### **Commendations**

The Commission commends CDU in particular for the following:

1. Strong commitment to their mission which includes involvement with the community, social justice, community service, address health inequalities, producing health professionals who would return to the community and serve. This commitment strengthens the Meaning, Quality and Integrity of the CDU degree. (CFR 1.1, 2.2)
2. The CDU has a strong governing board that has demonstrated open and transparent collaboration with the President and management team, as well as

- with the students and faculty. The Board has been highly involved in strategic planning and demonstrates continuing engagement across the institution. (CFR 3.6, 3.9, 4.6)
3. The senior administrative leadership is strong and has fostered a culture of trust, transparency and shared governance. (CFR 1.7, 3.6, 3.7, 3.10)
  4. CDU has been deliberate in its plan for growth while managing resources, which has resulted in financial stability. (CFR 3.4)
  5. The institution is commended for its strategic plan. Its development was collaborative and inclusive, and is well-understood across the institution. The implementation plan is credible and deliberate. (CFR 4.6, 4.7)
  6. Significant progress has been made in terms of responding to the series of past WSCUC recommendations. (CFR 1.8)
  7. The institution has a centralized academic program review process, assessing learning outcomes embedded throughout the curriculum. These assessments serve to improve program quality. (CFR 2.4, 2.7)
  8. The team commends the institution for maintaining the high quality of its research enterprise while moving towards a student-centered focus. (CFR 2.8)

## **Recommendations**

The Commission requires the institution to respond to the following issues:

1. Strengthen student services infrastructure to manage current programs and planned expansion. (CFR 2.10, 2.11, 2.12)
2. Make better use of information technology/automated services, and assure sufficient staff training. (CFR 3.5)
3. Assure there are sufficient instructional faculty (including adjuncts) and staff to support development and implementation of future programs. (CFR 3.1)
4. Develop a review process for administrative units to assure continuous quality improvement. (CFR 4.3)
5. Implement an institutionalized faculty development program to support continuous program improvement. (CFR 4.3)
6. Demonstrate the success of their strategic plan for growth which adheres to its mission and financial realities. (CFR 4.7)

In taking this action to reaffirm accreditation, the Commission confirms that CDU has addressed the three Core Commitments and has successfully completed the two-stage institutional review process conducted under the 2013 Standards of Accreditation. Between this action and the time of the next review for reaffirmation, the institution is encouraged to continue its progress, particularly with respect to student learning and success.

In accordance with Commission policy, a copy of this letter will be sent to the chair of CDU's governing board in one week. The Commission expects that the team report and this action letter will be posted in a readily accessible location on the CDU's website and widely distributed throughout the institution to promote further engagement and

improvement and to support the institution's response to the specific issues identified in these documents. The team report and the Commission's action letter will also be posted on the WSCUC website. If the institution wishes to respond to the Commission action on its own website, WSCUC will post a link to that response on the WSCUC website.

Finally, the Commission wishes to express its appreciation for the extensive work that CDU undertook in preparing for and supporting this accreditation review. WSCUC is committed to an accreditation process that adds value to institutions while contributing to public accountability, and we thank you for your continued support of this process. Please contact me if you have any questions about this letter or the action of the Commission.

Sincerely,



Jamiene S. Studley  
President

JSS/ thh

Cc: Reed Dasenbrock, Commission Chair  
William Shay, ALO  
Marvin O'Quinn, Board Chair  
Members of the Accreditation Visit Team  
Tamela H. Hawley, Vice President