



OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

INDIANA UNIVERSITY—PURDUE UNIVERSITY FORT WAYNE

**CONFIDENTIAL**

February 9, 2018

Mr. Robert Rucker  
Research and Advocacy Coordinator  
for Legal and Governmental Affairs  
Higher Learning Commission  
230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7,500  
Chicago, Illinois 60604-1411

Dear Mr. Rucker:

Thank you for sharing with me the *Summary Report* ("the Report") and accompanying *Fact-Finding Visit Report* for the Change of Control, Structure or Organization review that was requested by Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne (IPFW).

We have reviewed the report and concur with the overall findings; however, we offer the following response which identifies errors of fact in the Report.

- In the Overview section (page 2), there is a statement that "Dentistry" is a program that will transfer to Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI). The program that will transfer is "Dental Education." The more accurate representation is the language from the original application. "Management and control of the health sciences programs (Department of Dental Education, Department of Nursing, and Department of Medical Imaging and Radiologic Sciences) will be assumed by Indiana University as an additional location of Indiana University - Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI)".
- In the Analysis of Approval Factors section, under Factor 1, item 2, Educational Programs (page 4) there is a statement that IPFW currently has seven colleges. IPFW currently has six schools or colleges. They are:
  1. The College of Arts and Sciences
  2. The School of Business
  3. The College of Education and Human Services
  4. The College of Engineering, Technology and Computer Science
  5. The College of Health and Human Services, and
  6. The College of Visual and Performing Arts

Upon HLC approval, the University will have five schools or colleges. Also, the statement in this section reading "...Health Sciences Programs (Dental, Nursing, and

Radiology) would be more accurately represented as Health Sciences Programs (Dental Education, Nursing, and Medical Imaging and Radiologic Sciences".

- In the Assessment of Compliance with Eligibility Requirements after the Transaction section, item 1, Jurisdiction of the Commission (page 5), there is a statement that represents the transaction as a "merger." This language is not precise. It should read, "The University's main campus will remain in Indiana following the *realignment* of missions and *reorganization* of the institution as two entities. Indiana University assumes sole management of the existing IPFW Health Sciences Programs as an additional location of IUPUI. All other academic units remain under Purdue Management and Control. All operations remain in Indiana and therefore, both entities remain within the region of the Higher Learning Commission."
- The Assessment of Compliance with Eligibility Requirements after the Transaction section, item 9 (p.8), the report incorrectly states the Chancellor reports to the "...President of Purdue University as well as the Purdue University Board of Trustees". It should read that the Chancellor reports directly to the President of Purdue University. The following statement, in the HLC Summary Report, that "the focused visit team should clarify that the Chief Executive Officer ...reports directly to the Board and is hired/fired by the Board..." is, therefore, not accurate and should be deleted from the report.
- The Assessment of Compliance with Eligibility Requirements after the Transaction section item 13, Planning Section (page 9), representation of the latest Strategic Plan is vague and needs clarification. A more accurate representation is, "The University completed and the University Board approved the current strategic plan in 2014."
- In the Assessment of Compliance with the Criteria for Accreditation after the Transaction section, Core Component 1.D. (p. 11) states, "...citizens of northwest Indiana and beyond". It should state "...citizens of northeast Indiana and beyond".
- Core Components, item 5.D. (page 14) states: "It was noted during this review that the reporting relationship remains unclear at IPFW, given that the Chancellor reports to the Board and to the President of Purdue University (Core Component 5.B). If the transaction is approved, the focused visit team should review the Chancellor's reporting relationships and ensure the Chancellor reports directly to the Board and is hired/fired by the Board and should clarify the nature of the reporting relationship between the Chancellor and the President of Purdue University."The HLC statement is inconsistent with the statement of reporting relationship in the application. The application states, "The Chancellor of PFW will serve as Chief Executive Officer of the Fort Wayne Campus and report to the President of Purdue University. Therefore, operational control of the realigned entity (PFW) does not change as the institution remains under the leadership of its Chancellor as Chief Executive Officer reporting to the Purdue University President." Please note that this relationship is a continuation of the relationship stated

in prior management agreements and, as described in the realignment agreement, "The Chancellor is the Chief Executive Officer of the Fort Wayne Campus. He/she will be appointed and employed by Purdue University . . . and will report to the Purdue President."

Thank you again for the opportunity to review and respond to the Summary Report and the accompanying Fact-finding Visit Report. Please let me know if you have any questions or need further clarification.

Sincerely,



Ronald L. Elsenbaumer, Chancellor  
Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne

Cc: Kent Johnson, Director of Assessment, Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne  
Thomas Bordenkircher, Vice President for Accreditation Relations, Higher Learning  
Commission  
Karen Peterson, Executive Vice President for Legal and Governmental Affairs, Higher  
Learning Commission