



March 3, 2025

Dr. Melanie Henriksen
President
National University of Natural Medicine
49 S Porter Street
Portland, OR 97201

Dear President Henriksen:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) at its meeting on January 28-31, 2025, concerning the Fall 2024 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness of National University of Natural Medicine.

Accreditation

Reaffirm Accreditation

Status of Previous Recommendations Addressed in this Evaluation

- Recommendation 1: Spring 2017 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability - Continued as Needs Improvement
- Finding Type 1: Spring 2023 Policies, Regulations, and Financial Review - Fulfilled
- Finding Type 2: Spring 2023 Policies, Regulations, and Financial Review - Fulfilled

Commendations

The Commission commends National University of Natural Medicine for:

1. The faculty, staff, administration, and student's commitment to the student experience at NUNM.
2. The President's leadership and commitment to transparency.
3. Engaging its community of students, staff, and faculty in identifying key criteria when considering potential sites for relocating campus.
4. Taking solid steps to examine enrollment and adjust costs over the last several years in order to achieve a balanced budget in fiscal year 2024-25.

Recommendations Substantially in Compliance but in Need of Improvement

The Commission recommends that National University of Natural Medicine:

- Recommendation 1: Spring 2017 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability - Engage in an effective system of assessment to evaluate the quality of learning in its programs, and use the results of its assessment efforts to inform academic and learning-support planning and practices to continuously improve student learning outcomes. (2020 Standard(s) 1.C.5;1.C.7)
- Recommendation 1: Fall 2024 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Demonstrate an ongoing and systematic evaluation and planning process that uses measures of student learning and achievement to assign resources and inform and refine its effectiveness. (2020 Standard(s) 1.B.1)
- Recommendation 2: Fall 2024 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Develop a practice of long-term financial forecasting, including the impact of a future campus relocation. (2020 Standard(s) 2.E.2)
- Recommendation 3: Fall 2024 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Clarify and systematically evaluate the effectiveness of academic advising to ensure that all students have knowledge of and access to appropriate programs and services that support their success. (2020 Standard(s) 2.G.6)
- Recommendation 4: Fall 2024 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Develop a process to assess sufficiency of faculty, staff, and administrators to ensure that the institution meets and maintains necessary functions. (2020 Standard(s) 2.F.3)

- Recommendation 5: Fall 2024 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Implement a process to use institutional student achievement data, including regional and national peer data, to develop a set of indicators that are used to inform strategies and allocate resources to mitigate gaps in student achievement. (2020 Standard(s) 1.D.2;1.D.4)

Future Evaluations

- Financial Resources Review Spring 2026
 - Recommendation 2: Fall 2024 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
- Ad Hoc Report with Virtual Visit Fall 2026
 - Recommendation 3: Fall 2024 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
 - Recommendation 4: Fall 2024 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
- Mid-Cycle Review Fall 2027
 - Recommendation 1: Spring 2017 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability
 - Recommendation 1: Fall 2024 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
 - Recommendation 5: Fall 2024 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
- Year 6 - Standard 2 - Policies, Regulations, and Financial Review Fall 2030
- Year 7 - Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness Fall 2031

NWCCU 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. If you have questions about any of the information in this letter, please contact your staff liaison, Dr. Teresa Rivenes, at trivenes@nwccu.org.

Sincerely,



Jeff Fox
Interim President

cc: Mr. Mark Johnson, Director of Institutional Effectiveness
Dr. Noel Snodgrass, Board Chair
Dr. Sandra Pennington, Administrator Emeritus, Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions
Mr. Ben Cannon, Executive Director, Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission