



Middle States Commission on Higher Education

3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-2680. Tel: 267-284-5000. Fax: 215-662-5501

www.msche.org

January 20, 2011

Prof. Ivelice Cardona Cortes
Chancellor
UPR – Aguadilla
P.O. Box 250160
Aguadilla, PR 00604-0160

Dear Chancellor Cardona:

I hope that all is well with you and at UPR-Aguadilla. I am writing to ensure that we stay in communication in preparation for the upcoming evaluation visit and to clarify the Commission's expectations regarding the monitoring report due March 1, 2011 on Standards 3 and 4 in relation to that visit.

As noted in the action taken by the Commission on November 18, 2010, the evaluation team will take into consideration the March 1 monitoring report in lieu of a separate visit to UPR-Aguadilla by a small team. As always, any new information or documents not available at the time that the monitoring report is submitted can be provided to the team at the time of the visit. The institution remains responsible for any analysis and demonstration of relevance to the standards.

The evaluation team will be determining compliance with all fourteen standards, including Standards 3 and 4, therefore the self-study and the monitoring report can and should cross-reference each other as appropriate. Both can also use the same supporting material and evidence to document compliance. However, to ensure that the issues related to the monitoring report are given sufficient attention, the self-study report and the monitoring report should be submitted as two separate documents. At the time of the visit, the evaluation team will take both into consideration.

The March 1 monitoring report will need to be prepared by UPR Aguadilla as a document separate and distinct from other UPR monitoring reports. Because some matters pertain to the Central Administration, it is UPR-Aguadilla's responsibility to obtain the relevant information and material from Central Administration and Board of Trustees regarding compliance with Standards 3 and 4. UPR-Aguadilla will also need to make arrangements to ensure system officers are available to the team as necessary for interviews.

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The monitoring report, the evaluation team report and recommendations and the institutional response to the evaluation team report will be considered by the Evaluation Committee and the Committee on Follow-Up Activities. These Committees will review the findings and take into consideration the recommendations and requirements, if any, of the team and make a recommendation to the Commission for action. At the June 2011 meeting, the Commission will also review both reports, the institutional response, the team and Committee recommendations, and will take action regarding UPR-Aguadilla's accreditation.

As we get closer to the time of the visit, the team chair and I will contact you regarding specific details and further logistics. In the mean time, if you have any questions regarding the visit, reports, or process, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Luis G. Pedraja in black ink.

Luis G. Pedraja, Ph.D.
Vice President

cc: President Jose Ramon de la Torre
Vice President Ibis Aponte