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January 28, 2008

Dr. George S. Bridges ✓
President
Whitman College
345 Boyer Avenue
Walla Walla, WA 99362

Dear President Bridges: *George*

On behalf of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, I am pleased to report that the accreditation of Whitman College has been reaffirmed on the basis of the Fall 2007 Comprehensive Evaluation Report. Congratulations on receiving this continued recognition.

The policy of the Commission is not to grant accreditation for a definite number of years. Instead, accreditation must be reaffirmed periodically. Each institution is required to conduct a self study and be visited by a full evaluation committee at least once every ten years, and during the fifth year, the institution is to submit an interim report and be visited by one or more Commission representatives. In the case of Whitman College, the Commission requested a progress report in fall 2009 to address Recommendations 1 and 2 of the Fall 2007 Comprehensive Evaluation Report. A copy of these recommendations is enclosed for your reference.

In reaffirming accreditation, the Commission determined that Recommendations 1 and 2 of the Fall 2007 Comprehensive Evaluation Report are areas where the institution is substantially in compliance with Commission criteria but in need of improvement. In making this determination, the Commission requests that the College's Board of Trustees document regular evaluation of its performance in accordance with the expectations of Standard 6.B.6.

In the unlikely event the Commission should conclude that an institution is in danger of being unable to fulfill its mission and goals or to continue to meet the Eligibility Requirements, Standards or related Policies for accreditation, the Commission reserves the right to request that the institution receive an evaluation committee for a special review.

The Commission commends the College community for their fine efforts in preparing for the accreditation visit including the quality of the self-study, the departmental and program self-studies supplement, the DVD and secure website and the exhibits. Further, the Commission applauds the College for the high level of student satisfaction with the overall quality of the educational experience. Moreover, the Commission finds laudable the talented faculty for their dedicated work in the classroom, with individual students, and with their research and professional contributions. The Commission is pleased to

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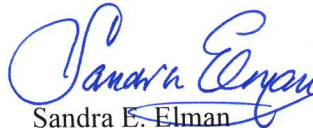
note the beauty and capability of the Penrose Library and its recent accomplishments in providing information literacy instruction for students and for its responsiveness to the College community. The Commission notes the College's many out-of-classroom activities and learning experiences provided for students through the collaboration of a variety of groups. In addition, the Commission commends the College's Technology Services for its ongoing development of a robust and secure campus network among other noteworthy practices and services. Lastly, the Commission commends the College for its extensive commitment to improving its physical facilities and the leadership of the Board of Trustees, the former and current Presidents, the Treasurer and the Director of Facilities.

Again, congratulations on receiving this recognition. Please feel free to contact me regarding your thoughts or suggestions for improving the comprehensive evaluation process and for any assistance we may provide the institution.

We will write in spring 2009 regarding the Fall 2009 Progress Report.

Best wishes for a rewarding and peaceful new year.

Sincerely,


Sandra E. Elman
President

SEE:rb

Enclosures: Recommendations

cc: Dr. Thomas A. Callister, Associate Dean of Faculty
Mr. John Stanton, Chair, Board of Trustees
Judge Jim Robart, Chair Elect, Board of Trustees