

July 20, 2018

Dr. Gregory O'Brien  
President and CEO  
International Technological University  
2711 North First Street  
San Jose, CA 95134

Dear President O'Brien:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning International Technological University (ITechU) 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 International Technological University April 3-6, 2018. The Commission also reviewed the institutional report and exhibits submitted by International Technological University prior to the Offsite Review (OSR), the supplemental materials requested by the team after the OSR, and the institution's May 31, 2018 response to the team report. The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the visit with you and your colleagues: Dr. Alvin Cheung, Board Chair; and Bhagat Patlolla, Interim Provost. 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 six years
3. Schedule the next reaffirmation review with the Offsite Review in fall 2023 and the Accreditation Visit in spring 2024
4. Schedule the Mid-Cycle Review to begin May 1, 2021
5. Schedule a Special Visit in spring 2020 to focus on:
  - a. Revisiting the institutional Mission and clarifying Vision
  - b. Prioritizing institutional planning
  - c. Analyzing current enrollment and operations
  - d. Examining the mix of students and programs

### **Commendations**

The Commission commends International Technological University in particular for the following:

1. Widespread and deep engagement of all stakeholders in the transparent, forthright, and deliberate self-study process.

2. Stakeholders' great enthusiasm for and commitment to ITU and its mission, despite financial challenges, and a culture of collaboration within and among teams and departments.
3. Numerous leadership positions and concurrently hired new personnel who have extensive experience in critical areas of American higher education. ITU leaders head integrated and collaborative teams that embrace the innovative ideas and strategies brought by newcomers.
4. A comprehensive student learning assessment framework that includes mapping course, program, and institutional learning outcomes; embedding outcomes in a learning management system; developing signature assignments; developing faculty; and engaging in a Program Review process that mandates opportunities for input from multiple internal and external stakeholders.
5. A comprehensive review of policies and the development of needed policies, which resulted in the alignment of an annual university catalog, an updated faculty handbook, and a policy and procedure manual.
6. All units and departments engagement in an extremely effective and thorough annual operational planning process that links operations and budget needs to ITU's strategic goals.
7. The use of highly qualified faculty, most of whom are currently employed in the technology industry, assures cutting edge content and industry application, both consistent with the ITU mission
8. Enhancements and changes in the internship program have resulted in a high impact educational practice that ensures academic value.

## **Recommendations**

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

1. Develop and implement an annual institutional planning process that is data driven and informed by the Strategic Plan, resulting in the prioritization of annual institutional initiatives and allocation of resources. (CFR 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7)
2. Systematically analyze student outcome data, both aggregated and disaggregated, to inform continuous improvement efforts at the program and institutional levels ("close the loop"). (CFR 2.10, 4.3, 4.4)
3. Pursue alternative revenue resources and revise budgets accordingly. Regularly reconsider the number and variety of ITU's programs with respect to fit with mission, market, and available resources. (CFR 2.1, 3.4, 3.5)
4. Increase staffing and provide academic oversight of international student operations to further improve quality assurance. (CFR 3.1, 3.3)

5. Clarify the overlapping roles and decision making authority of the Cabinet and the Academic Leadership Council and broadly communicate to stakeholders the distinctions between the two bodies. (CFR 3.7 and 3.10)

In taking this action to reaffirm accreditation, the Commission confirms that International Technological University 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 International Technological University'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 International Technological University'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 International Technological University 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/mbg

Cc: Reed Dasenbrock, Commission Chair  
Bhagat Patlolla, ALO  
Alvin Cheung, Board Chair  
Members of the Accreditation Visit team  
Mark Goor, Vice President