

March 6, 2024

Dr. Nathaniel Wilson
Interim President
Wilson University
9735 Dino Drive
Elk Grove, CA 95624

Dear President Wilson:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning Wilson University (WilsonU) by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) at its meeting February 16, 2024. This action was taken after consideration of the report of the review team that conducted the Seeking Accreditation Visit 2 to WilsonU October 11-13, 2023 using the 2013 Standards of Accreditation. The Commission also reviewed the institutional report and exhibits submitted by WilsonU prior to the Seeking Accreditation Visit 2 and the institution's November 16, 2023 response to the team report. The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the visit with you and your colleagues Jennifer Barrett, Executive Vice President, Anna Ballinger, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Denise Wolf, Vice President for Student Affairs, Kasey Sees, Vice President for Operations, and Byron Tanner, Chief Financial Officer. 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 Seeking Accreditation Visit 2 team report
2. Grant Initial Accreditation for a period of six years
3. Allow the date of Initial Accreditation to be applied retroactively to October 13, 2023
4. Schedule the next reaffirmation review with the Offsite Review in spring 2029 and the Accreditation Visit in fall 2029
5. Schedule a Special Visit in fall 2026 to address:
 - a. developing a more robust strategic enrollment plan.
 - b. developing long-term financial plans.
 - c. building institutional capacity to collect, analyze, and interpret data.
 - d. enhance the Financial Development Plan.
 - e. aligning learning outcomes with specific student assignments and disaggregating student achievement data.
 - f. refining the program review process.

6. Request a Progress Report to be submitted by June 30, 2025 to provide an update on: (1) filling the roles of President and Chief Financial Officer; (2) developing a strategic enrollment plan; and (3) expanding the budget development process.

Commendations

The Commission commends the institution for:

1. Investing in board education regarding conflict of interest and financial oversight
2. Updating the institutional learning outcomes in light of its mission
3. Hiring staff experienced in higher education and beginning to invest in professional development for faculty, staff, and administration
4. Continuing to develop and diversify fiscal resources and sustainability for the institution with effective leadership from the board
5. Developing an institutional understanding of shared governance and building structures to support engagement, particularly of faculty, in institutional direction.

Areas for Development

The Commission requires the institution to respond to the following areas for development:

1. Expedite filling the roles of CEO and CFO to ensure continued qualified leadership and operational integrity at the university. (CFR 3.9)
2. Further develop a mature and robust strategic enrollment plan that uses market/funnel analysis in creating enrollment projections incorporated directly into the institutional budget (CFR 3.4)
3. Expand the budget development process to include long-term financial plans that anticipate future growth in enrollment and other institutional needs (CFRs 3.4, 3.5)
4. Enhance the Financial Development Plan with quantified outcomes and responsibilities assigned to particular individuals (CFR 3.4)
5. Keep building institutional capacity to collect, analyze, and interpret data to ensure consistency, integration, and evidence-based excellence in all organizational operations, in support of strategic planning and continuous improvement (CFR 4.1, 4.2)
6. Continue to align learning outcomes with specific student assignments (e.g., signature assignments in relevant courses). Collect, analyze, and disaggregate additional student achievement data with a focus on performance (CFR 3.10)
7. Continue to refine the program review process, including independent external reviewers and additional student achievement data (CFR 2.4)

In taking this action to grant Initial Accreditation, the Commission confirmed that WilsonU completed the institutional review process for Initial Accreditation conducted under the 2013 Standards of Accreditation. In keeping with WSCUC values, WilsonU should strive for ongoing improvement with adherence to all Standards of Accreditation

and their associated CFRs to foster a learning environment that continuously strives for educational excellence and operational effectiveness.

WilsonU must use the following statement if it wishes to describe its accreditation status publicly:

WilsonU is accredited by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC), 1080 Marina Village Parkway, Suite 500, Alameda, CA 94501, 510.748.9001.

Federal law requires that the WSCUC address and phone number appear in your catalog.

The accredited status of a program should not be misrepresented. The accreditation granted by WSCUC refers to the quality of the institution as a whole. Because institutional accreditation does not imply specific accreditation of any particular program at the institution, statements such as “this program is accredited” or “this degree is accredited” are incorrect and misleading. The phrase “fully accredited” is also to be avoided, since no partial accreditation is possible.

The Commission stipulated that this action encompassed the degrees offered by WilsonU at the time of this action, as listed at the end of this letter as the Consolidated List of Currently Offered Degrees. Any proposed new degree programs, off-campus sites, online offerings, and/or changes in governance or ownership require review and approval through the Substantive Change process. Degree programs reviewed and included under this action may be extended to other currently approved campuses of the institution without prior Substantive Change action. Offerings at new locations may need to go through Substantive Change approval, in accordance with the requirements stated in the Substantive Change manual.

Institutions granted Initial Accreditation are required to:

1. Submit an Annual Report in the format required by the Commission.
2. Keep the Commission informed of any significant changes or developments. Any proposed new degree programs, off-campus sites, online offerings, and/or changes in governance or ownership require review and approval through the Substantive Change process.
3. Pay Annual Membership Dues prorated from the date of this action. An Annual Dues statement will be sent under separate cover.

In accordance with Commission policy, a copy of this letter is being sent to the chair of WilsonU's. The Commission expects that the team report and this action letter will be posted in a readily accessible location on the WilsonU'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 WilsonU 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,



Jamienne S. Studley
President

JSS/thh

Cc: Tracy Poon Tambascia, Commission Chair
Jennifer Barrett, ALO
Johnny King, Board Chair
Members of the Seeking Accreditation Visit 2 team
Tamela Hawley, Vice President

Attachment: Consolidated List of Currently Offered Degrees

Wilson University
Active Programs as of February 2024

Associate of Arts in General Studies, Distance Education
Bachelor of Science in Christian Ministry, Distance Education
Apostolic Foundations Certificate, Distance Education
Christian Counseling Certificate, Distance Education
Leadership Essentials and Apostolic Principles Certificate, Distance Education