

July 18, 2024

Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.) Ann Rondeau
President
Naval Postgraduate School
One University Circle
Monterey, CA 93943-5002

Dear President Rondeau:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) at its meeting June 28, 2024. This action was taken after consideration of the report of the review team that conducted the Special Visit to NPS February 28 to March 1, 2024 using the 2013 Standards of Accreditation. The Commission also reviewed the institutional report and exhibits submitted December 21, 2023 prior to the Special Visit and the institution's May 7, 2024 response to the team report. The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the visit with you and your colleagues Jennifer Webeck, Data Analyst; Peter Denning, Faculty Council Member; James Newman, Acting Provost; Robert Sweeney, Chief Operating Officer; Vincent Carr, Deputy COO; Andrew Ceniseroz, Chief of Staff; Laura Cole, Comptroller; Christopher Bone, Enterprise Resource Manager; James Michael Vice Provost of Academic Affairs; Jomana Amara, Vice Provost; Randolph Pugh, Vice Provost Warfare Studies; Kevin Smith, Vice Provost Research; Laurel Minik Director of Office of Institutional Effectiveness; Sabrina Pamaran, Director of Programs; Tom Rosko, Librarian; Dexter Kennedy, Project Manager; and Dennis Lester, Associate Provost for Academic Leadership. Your comments were very helpful in informing the Commission's deliberations. The date of this action constitutes the effective date of the institution's status with WSCUC.

Actions

1. Receive the Special Visit team report
2. Continue with the previously scheduled reaffirmation review with the Offsite Review in spring 2030 and the Accreditation Visit in fall 2030
3. Schedule a Special Visit in fall 2026 to focus on all requirements in this letter

Commendations

The Commission commends the institution for:

1. Development and implementation of a planning and budgeting process to secure resources to accomplish the mission and vision.
2. Initial implementation of an inclusive and comprehensive campus modernization plan.
3. Initial efforts of the inclusion and diversity council, that with expanded membership have positioned the institution to strategically address diversity, inclusion, and equity.

Areas for Development

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

1. Develop and sustain an institution wide approach to assessing student learning and improving educational effectiveness. (CFR 2.6, 3.1, 4.1, 4.3)
2. Ensure sufficient faculty and staff support to develop and sustain the assessment of student learning outcomes and document improvement efforts. (CFR 2.6, 3.1, 4.1, 4.3)
3. Develop and implement strategies to evaluate the extent to which the Vision and Strategic Framework has been successfully implemented and has informed institutional activities. (CFR 1.1)

In accordance with Commission policy, a copy of this letter is being sent to the chair of Naval Postgraduate School's governing board. The Commission expects that the team report and this action letter will be posted in a readily accessible location on the Naval Post Graduate School'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 Naval Postgraduate School 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/sbh

Cc: Tracy Poon Tambascia, Commission Chair
Jennifer Webeck, ALO
Mark Hagerott, Board Chair
Members of the Special Visit Team
Mark B Goor, Vice President (Institutional Liaison)
Stephanie Huie, Vice President (Visit Liaison)