

July 11, 2022

Dr. Galeb Al Hadrami  
Acting Vice Chancellor  
United Arab Emirates University  
P.O. Box 15551  
Al Ain, United Arab Emirates 15551

Dear Vice Chancellor Al Hadrami:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning United Arab Emirates University (UAEU) by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) at its meeting June 24, 2022. This action was taken after consideration of the report of the review team that conducted the Accreditation Visit to United Arab Emirates University March 7-10, 2022. The Commission also reviewed the institutional report and exhibits submitted by United Arab Emirates University prior to the Offsite Review (OSR), the supplemental materials requested by the team after the OSR, and the institution's May 24, 2022 response to the team report. The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the visit with you and your colleagues Wissam Ibrahim, Director, Office of Institutional Effectiveness, and Amr Sweedan, Director, Academic Affairs and ALO. 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 ten years
3. Schedule the next reaffirmation review with the Offsite Review in fall 2031 and the Accreditation Visit in spring 2032
4. Schedule a Special Visit in spring 2025 to address all requirements in this letter.

The Commission commends United Arab Emirates University in particular for the following:

1. Strong, capable, and forward-looking senior administrative and academic leadership that has implemented progressive changes in the university, including the phased academic integration of male and female students.
2. Creation of comprehensive data systems (PRAMS and LOAMS) that provide the university with a well-integrated and widely embraced approach to learning assessment and continuous improvement of academic programs.

3. Commitment to quality improvement as an on-going process, with the particularly notable continuing work of the institution's accreditation steering committee.
4. Development of critical structures and functions to plan for the future, with prominent examples including the Strategic and Future Department and the development of comprehensive long-range financial models and analytical tools.
5. Rapid development and adoption of effective alternative teaching and learning technologies in response to the pandemic.

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

1. Continue to take actions, based on widely recognized best practices, that are designed to improve the effectiveness of the University Council as the institution's governing board. (CFRs 1.5 and 3.9)
2. Affirmatively address the representation of women and Emirati nationals in the faculty as the university works to attract and retain the high-quality faculty needed to support its educational excellence goals and its aspiration to enhance its research profile. (CFRs 1.4, 3.1, and 3.2)
3. Strengthen efforts to improve post-graduation employment rates, which is one of UAEU's criteria for student success. (CFRs 2.6, 2.10, and 2.13)
4. Develop a detailed plan for continued growth of the institution's research profile that addresses areas such as graduate students and post docs, specialized research support personnel, balance between teaching and research, research partnerships, and technology transfer functions. (CFRs 2.8 and 3.2)

In taking this action to reaffirm accreditation, the Commission confirmed that United Arab Emirates University addressed the three Core Commitments and successfully completed the two-stage institutional review process conducted under the 2013 Standards of Accreditation. In keeping with WSCUC values, United Arab Emirates University 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.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jamienne S. Studley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Jamienne S. Studley  
President

JSS/so

Cc: Phillip Doolittle, Commission Chair  
Amr Sweedan, ALO  
Zaki Nusseibeh, Board Chair  
Members of the Accreditation Visit team  
Susan Opp, Vice President