WASC reaffirms accreditation for UH West O'ahu

KAPOLEI --- The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) Senior College and University Commission reaffirmed accreditation for the University of Hawai'i – West O'ahu for the next seven years and removed the Notice of Concern status, as communicated in a letter dated March 6.

“Our faculty, staff and students have worked hard to create a student-centered environment at the University and a culture of assessment and continual improvement. We look forward to continuing to offer our students the high quality educational experience they deserve here at UH West O'ahu,” said UH West O'ahu Chancellor, Rockne Freitas. “It was truly a collaborative effort by the entire University to address the commission’s recommendation.”

“WASC found that UH West O'ahu addressed core commitments to student learning and success, quality and improvement, and institutional integrity, sustainability, and accountability,” said UH West O'ahu Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Accreditation Liaison Officer, Jacqueline Honda. “These are areas that we’ve worked hard to address. WASC's reaffirmation of our accreditation confirms our commitment to making UH West O’ahu the best campus possible.”

The next WASC visit is scheduled for spring 2022, with a Mid-Cycle Review in 2019. The University is required to submit an interim report in fall 2018 to notify the commission about progress made on the commission’s recommendations related to:

- Resource planning and development toward financial stability
- Growing faculty capacity
- Clarifying decision-making structures and processes
- Developing assessment systems and
- Strategizing distance education delivery

A copy of the March 6 WASC letter reaffirming accreditation may be found on the UH West O'ahu website at http://www.uhwo.hawaii.edu/about-us/accreditation/. In July 2012, the WASC Senior College and University Commission issued a letter notifying UH West O’ahu of its reaccreditation with Notice of Concern status. UH West O'ahu has remained fully accredited since 1981.
Established in 1976, the University of Hawai‘i - West O‘ahu offers quality education, small classes and personalized attention with academic programs that emphasize the exploration of interdisciplinary and cross-cultural studies. UH West O‘ahu serves approximately 2,700 students at its brand new, state-of-the-art campus that opened in the City of Kapolei in 2012. For more information, visit www.uhwo.hawaii.edu, call (808) 689-2800 or toll-free (866) 299-8656. Find us on Facebook and Twitter.