



RECEIVED

FEB 02 2009

**CHAIR**  
Sherwood Lingenfelter  
*Fuller Theological Seminary*

**VICE CHAIR**  
Horace Mitchell  
*California State University, Bakersfield*

Mark Bookman  
*American Jewish University*

W. Bernard Bowler  
*Public Member*

Jerry Dean Campbell  
*Claremont School of Theology*

Anna DiStefano  
*Fielding Graduate University*

James Donahue  
*Graduate Theological Union*

Jackie Donath  
*California State University, Sacramento*

Aimée Dorr  
*University of California, Los Angeles*

John Eshelman  
*Seattle University*

John Fitzpatrick  
*Schools Commission Representative*

Laurence Gould  
*Public Member*

Michael L. Jackson  
*University of Southern California*

Linda Johnsrud  
*University of Hawaii*

Roberts Jones  
*Public Member*

Louanne Kennedy  
*California State University,  
Dominguez Hills*

Thomas McFadden  
*Community and Junior Colleges  
Commission Representative*

Leroy Morishita  
*San Francisco State University*

William Plater  
*Public Member*

Sheldon Schuster  
*Keck Graduate Institute*

Eleanor Dantzer Siebert  
*Mount St. Mary's College*

Carmen Sigler  
*San Jose State University*

Larry Vanderhoef  
*University of California, Davis*

Michael Whyte  
*Azusa Pacific University*

Paul Zingg  
*California State University, Chico*

**PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
Ralph A. Wolff

February 26, 2009

Bro. Bernard Ploeger  
Interim President and Executive Vice President  
Chaminade University of Honolulu  
3140 Waiialae Avenue  
Honolulu, HI 96816-1578

Dear President Ploeger:

At its meeting February 16-17, 2009, the Commission considered the report of the Capacity and Preparatory Review team that conducted the visit to the Chaminade University of Honolulu October 1-3, 2008. The Commission also reviewed the Capacity and Preparatory Report submitted by the University prior to the visit. The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the visit with you; Michael Fassiotto, Dean of Professional Education; Bro. William Campbell, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees; and Professor Ron Becker, Chair of the WASC Steering Committee. The updates and information that you provided, and your observations about the review, were very helpful.

Chaminade has made significant progress on many fronts since its last reaccreditation. An outstanding leadership team, supported by a dedicated Board of Regents, has achieved unprecedented success in financial management and fundraising, and the campus has been enhanced by several new or renovated facilities, including a splendid new library. The spirit of "ohana" or family, along with enthusiasm for the mission and values of the University, is palpable across all sectors of the campus community. Most notably, Chaminade has responded with grace and resilience to the illness and death of President Sue Wesselkamper.

The Commission endorsed the findings, commendations, and recommendations of the team and wishes to emphasize the importance of the seven areas cited in the team report: 1) defining Student Learning Outcomes for general education and degree programs that have not yet done so; 2) introducing formal program review with external evaluators; 3) clarifying the process, criteria, and purposes of the Growth and Development Plan, or GDP; 4) clarifying expectations for faculty research and scholarship; 5) integrating service learning into the curriculum and assessing outcomes; 6) strengthening IT; and 7) increasing enrollment. The Commission expects that these areas will be addressed in the Educational Effectiveness Review (EER) report and hopes to see substantial progress in all of them by the time of the EER visit.

The Standards of Accreditation place special emphasis on student learning and on the obligation of institutions to assess student learning and identify ways to improve student learning. Chaminade is just building the infrastructure for the assessment of student learning at the program level. At the time of the EER, the team should find that this infrastructure is much more fully developed, and that assessment is underway across the university. Results of assessment of student learning should be used by faculty for improvement, and should be available for the team's review. This expectation aligns

with one of Chaminade's key themes for the EER, namely assessing student learning to enhance quality.

The Commission acted to:

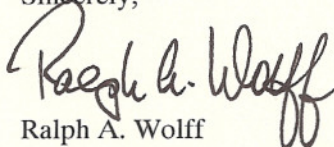
1. Receive the Capacity and Preparatory Review Report and continue the accreditation of Chaminade University of Honolulu.
2. Proceed with the scheduled Educational Effectiveness Review visit in March 2010.
3. Request that the institution incorporate its response to the issues raised in this action letter and to the major recommendations of the CPR team report into its Educational Effectiveness Review Report.

In accordance with Commission policy, a copy of this letter will be sent to the chair of the institution's governing board within one week. It is the Commission's expectation that the team report and this action letter will be widely disseminated throughout the institution to promote engagement and improvement and to support the institution's response to the specific issues identified in the team report.

Finally, the Commission noted that the team dedicated its report and commented with great praise on the leadership provided by Sue Wesselkamper. The Commission wished also to acknowledge the significant contributions she made to Chaminade and to higher education in the region through her service on the Commission.

Please contact me if you have any questions or comments about this letter or the action of the Commission.

Sincerely,



Ralph A. Wolff  
President and Executive Director

cc: Commission Chair  
Board Chair  
Accreditation Liaison Officer  
Members of the team  
Barbara Wright