



## Middle States Commission on Higher Education

3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-2680. Tel: 267-284-5000. Fax: 215-662-5501  
www.msche.org

June 28, 2013

Prof. Marilina Wayland  
Chancellor  
Inter American University of Puerto Rico Metropolitan Campus  
P. O. Box 191293  
Metropolitan Campus  
San Juan, PR 00919-1293

RECIBIDO  
OFICINA DEL RECTOR  
U.I.R.M.  
2013 JUL -2 AM 9:16

Dear Prof. Wayland:

At its session on June 27, 2013, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education acted:

To reaffirm accreditation and to commend the institution for the quality of the self-study process. To request a monitoring report, due April 1, 2015, documenting (1) continued development and implementation of a comprehensive plan for the assessment of institutional effectiveness (Standard 7) and (2) further progress in the implementation of an organized and sustainable student learning assessment process that includes direct evidence of student learning, with evidence that results are used to improve teaching and learning (Standard 14). The Periodic Review Report is due November 1, 2018.

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the Statement of Accreditation Status for your institution. The Statement of Accreditation Status (SAS) provides important basic information about the institution and its affiliation with the Commission, and it is made available to the public in the Directory of Members and Candidates on the Commission's website at [www.msche.org](http://www.msche.org). Accreditation applies to the institution as detailed in the SAS; institutional information is derived from data provided by the institution through annual reporting and from Commission actions. If any of the institutional information is incorrect, please contact the Commission as soon as possible.

Please check to ensure that published references to your institution's accredited status (catalog, other publications, web page) include the full name, address, and telephone number of the accrediting agency. Further guidance is provided in the Commission's policy statement *Advertising, Student Recruitment, and Representation of Accredited Status*. If the action for your institution includes preparation of a progress report, monitoring report or supplemental report, please see our policy statement on *Follow-up Reports and Visits*. Both policies can be obtained from our website.

Please be assured of the continuing interest of the Commission on Higher Education in the well-being of Inter American University of Puerto Rico Metropolitan Campus. If any further clarification is needed regarding the SAS or other items in this letter, please feel free to contact Dr. Tito Guerrero, Vice President.

Sincerely,

R. Barbara Gitenstein, Ph.D.  
Chair

c: Lcdo. Manuel J. Fernos, President, Inter American University of Puerto Rico Central Office  
Prof. Carmen Luz Berrios Rivera, Executive Director, Puerto Rico Council on Higher Education

The Middle States Commission on Higher Education accredits institutions of higher education in Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and other locations abroad.



## **MIDDLE STATES COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION**

3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-2680. Tel: 267-284-5000. Fax: 215-662-5501  
[www.msche.org](http://www.msche.org)

### **STATEMENT OF ACCREDITATION STATUS**

#### **INTER AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO METROPOLITAN CAMPUS**

**P. O. Box 191293**

**Metropolitan Campus**

**San Juan, PR 00919-1293**

**Phone: (787) 250-1912; Fax: (787) 250-0742**

**[www.metro.inter.edu](http://www.metro.inter.edu)**

**Chief Executive  
Officer:**

Prof. Marilina Wayland, Chancellor

**System:**

Inter American University of Puerto Rico Central Office

Lcdo. Manuel J. Fernos, President

G.P.O Box 36355

San Juan, PR 00936

Phone: (787) 766-1912; Fax: (787) 766-1982

### **INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION**

**Enrollment**

**(Headcount):** 7725 Undergraduate; 2978 Graduate

**Control:** Private (Non-Profit)

**Affiliation:** n/a

**Carnegie** Doctoral/Research

**Classification:**

**Degrees Offered:** Postsecondary Certificate ( $\geq 1$  year,  $< 2$  years), Associate's, Bachelor's, Postbaccalaureate Certificate, Master's, Post-Master's Certificate, Doctor's - Professional Practice, Doctor's - Research/Scholarship;

**Distance** Yes

**Education**

**Programs:**

**Accreditors Approved by U.S. Secretary of Education:** National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission; Teacher Education Accreditation Council, Accreditation Committee

**Other Accreditors:** International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET); Council on Social Work Education (CSWE); National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS); Network of International Business Schools (NIBS)

### **Instructional Locations**

**Branch Campuses:** None



**Additional Locations:** Bernardini Building, San Juan, PR; Caguas University Center, Caguas, PR; Off-Campus Extension Center in Bayamon (CERMEB), Bayamon, PR.

**Other Instructional Sites:** None

## **ACCREDITATION INFORMATION**

**Status:** Member since 1960

**Last Reaffirmed:** June 27, 2013

### **Most Recent Commission Action:**

June 27, 2013: To reaffirm accreditation and to commend the institution for the quality of the self-study process. To request a monitoring report, due April 1, 2015, documenting (1) continued development and implementation of a comprehensive plan for the assessment of institutional effectiveness (Standard 7) and (2) further progress in the implementation of an organized and sustainable student learning assessment process that includes direct evidence of student learning, with evidence that results are used to improve teaching and learning (Standard 14). The Periodic Review Report is due November 1, 2018.

### **Brief History Since Last Comprehensive Evaluation:**

November 20, 2008: To accept the Periodic Review Report, to reaffirm accreditation, and to request a progress letter due by October 1, 2010, documenting evidence of direct methods of assessment of student learning at the institutional and program level, including evidence that student learning assessment information is used to improve teaching and learning (Standard 14). The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2012-2013.

April 29, 2009: To acknowledge receipt of the substantive change request and to note the institution's revised mission statement. To remind the institution of the progress letter due by October 1, 2010, documenting evidence of direct methods of assessment of student learning at the institutional and program level, including evidence that student learning assessment information is used to improve teaching and learning (Standard 14). The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2012-2013.

November 18, 2010: To accept the progress report. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2012-2013.

May 5, 2011: To acknowledge receipt of the substantive change request and to provisionally include the additional location at the Off-Campus Extension Center in Bayamon (CERMEB), located at Inter American University of Puerto Rico Bayamon, 500 Road 830 Bayamon, PR 00957 within the scope of the institution's accreditation pending a site visit within six months of commencing operations at the site. The Commission requires written notification within thirty days of the

commencement of operations at the additional location. In the event that operations at the additional location do not commence within one calendar year from the approval of this action, approval will lapse. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2012-2013.

March 1, 2012: To note the visit by the Commission's representative and to affirm inclusion of the additional location at the Off-Campus Extension Center in Bayamon (CERMEB), located at Inter American University of Puerto Rico Bayamon, 500 Road 830, Bayamon, PR 00957 within the scope of the institution's accreditation. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2012-2013.

August 27, 2012: To acknowledge receipt of the substantive change request. To approve the relocation of the additional location from the Off-Campus Cyber Center (CECCI), Gatsby Building, Ruiz Belvis Street, corner of Jose Mercado Avenue, Caguas, PR 00727 to the El Verde Building, 125 Gautier Benitez Avenue, corner of Jose Mercado Avenue, Caguas, PR 00726. To include the new location provisionally within the scope of the institution's accreditation pending a site visit within six months of commencing operations at the site. The Commission requires written notification within thirty days of the commencement of operations at the additional location. In the event that operations at the additional location do not commence within one calendar year from the approval of this action, approval will lapse. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2012-2013.

November 15, 2012: To note the visit by the Commission's representative and to affirm inclusion of the Caguas University Center additional location at the El Verde Building, 125 Gautier Benitez Avenue, corner of Jose Mercado Avenue, Caguas, PR 00726 within the scope of the institution's accreditation. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2012-2013.

January 2, 2013: To acknowledge receipt of the substantive change request and to include provisionally the additional location at the Bernardini Building, 118 Eleanor Roosevelt Avenue, San Juan, PR 00919 within the scope of the institution's accreditation pending a site visit within six months of commencing operations at this site. The Commission requires written notification within thirty days of the commencement of operations at the additional location. In the event that operations at the additional location do not commence within one calendar year from the approval of this action, approval will lapse. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2012-2013.

**Next Self-Study Evaluation:** 2022 - 2023

**Next Periodic Review Report:** 2018

**Date Printed:** June 28, 2013



## DEFINITIONS

**Branch Campus** - A location of an institution that is geographically apart and independent of the main campus of the institution. The location is independent if the location: offers courses in educational programs leading to a degree, certificate, or other recognized educational credential; has its own faculty and administrative or supervisory organization; and has its own budgetary and hiring authority.

**Additional Location** - A location, other than a branch campus, that is geographically apart from the main campus and at which the institution offers at least 50 percent of an educational program. **ANYA** ("Approved but Not Yet Active") indicates that the location is included within the scope of accreditation but has not yet begun to offer courses. This designation is removed after the Commission receives notification that courses have begun at this location.

**Other Instructional Sites** - A location, other than a branch campus or additional location, at which the institution offers one or more courses for credit.

**Distance Education Programs** - Yes or No indicates whether or not the institution has been approved to offer one or more degree or certificate/diploma programs for which students could meet 50% or more of their requirements by taking distance education courses.

## EXPLANATION OF COMMISSION ACTIONS

An institution's accreditation continues unless it is explicitly suspended or removed. In addition to reviewing the institution's accreditation status at least every 5 years, actions are taken for substantive changes (such as a new degree or geographic site, or a change of ownership) or when other events occur that require review for continued compliance. Any type of report or visit required by the Commission is reviewed and voted on by the Commission after it is completed.

In increasing order of seriousness, a report by an institution to the Commission may be accepted, acknowledged, or rejected.

### Levels of Actions:

Grant or Re-Affirm Accreditation without follow-up

Defer a decision on initial accreditation: The institution shows promise but the evaluation team has identified issues of concern and recommends that the institution be given a specified time period to address those concerns.

Postpone a decision on (reaffirmation of) accreditation: The Commission has determined that there is insufficient information to substantiate institutional compliance with one or more standards.

Continue accreditation: A delay of up to one year may be granted to ensure a current and accurate representation of the institution or in the event of circumstances beyond the institution's control (natural disaster, U.S. State Department travel warnings, etc.)

Recommendations to be addressed in the next Periodic Review Report: Suggestions for improvement are given, but no follow-up is needed for compliance.

Supplemental Information Report: This is required when a decision is postponed and are intended only to allow the institution to provide further information, not to give the institution time to formulate plans or initiate remedial action.

Progress report: The Commission needs assurance that the institution is carrying out activities that were planned or were being implemented at the time of a report or on-site visit.

Monitoring report: There is a potential for the institution to become non-compliant with MSCHE standards; issues are more complex or more numerous; or issues require a substantive, detailed report. A visit may or may not be required.

Warning: The Commission acts to Warn an institution that its accreditation may be in jeopardy when the institution is not in compliance with one or more Commission standards and a follow-up report, called a monitoring report, is required to demonstrate that the institution has made appropriate improvements to bring itself into compliance. Warning indicates that the Commission believes that, although the institution is out of compliance, the institution has the capacity to make appropriate improvements within a reasonable period of time and the institution has the capacity to sustain itself in the long term.

Probation: The Commission places an institution on Probation when, in the Commission's judgment, the institution is not in compliance with one or more Commission standards and that the non-compliance is sufficiently serious, extensive, or acute that it raises concern about one or more of the following:

1. the adequacy of the education provided by the institution;
2. the institution's capacity to make appropriate improvements in a timely fashion; or
3. the institution's capacity to sustain itself in the long term.

Probation is often, but need not always be, preceded by an action of Warning or Postponement. If the Commission had previously postponed a decision or placed the institution on Warning, the Commission may place the institution on Probation if it determines that the institution has failed to address satisfactorily the Commission's concerns in the prior action of postponement or warning regarding compliance with Commission standards. This action is accompanied by a request for a monitoring report, and a special visit follows. Probation may, but need not always, precede an action of Show Cause.

Suspend accreditation: Accreditation has been Continued for one year and an appropriate evaluation is not possible. This is a procedural action that would result in Removal of Accreditation if accreditation cannot be reaffirmed within the period of suspension.

Show cause why the institution's accreditation should not be removed: The institution is required to present its case for accreditation by means of a substantive report and/or an on-site evaluation. A "Public Disclosure Statement" is issued by the Commission.

Remove accreditation. If the institution appeals this action, its accreditation remains in effect until the appeal is completed.

Other actions are described in the Commission policy, "Range of Commission Actions on Accreditation."