



**SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS
COMMISSION ON COLLEGES**

1866 Southern Lane • Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097

Telephone 404/679-4500 Fax 404/679-4558

www.sacscoc.org

July 8, 2011

Dr. Dan Jones
President and Chief Executive Officer
Texas A&M University-Commerce
2600 S. Neal Ste. 295
Commerce, TX 75429

Dear Dr. Jones:

The following action regarding your institution was taken at the June 2011 meeting of the Board of Trustees of SACS Commission on Colleges:

The Commission on Colleges reviewed a Referral Report and placed your institution on Warning for six months for failure to comply with Core Requirement 2.8 (Faculty) of the *Principles of Accreditation*. The Committee did not authorize a Special Committee Visit. The institution is requested to submit a First Monitoring Report due **September 7, 2011**, addressing the following referenced standard of the *Principle*:

CS 2.8 (Faculty)

In an earlier response to the Commission involving the adequacy of full-time faculty, the institution listed several characteristics and features relating to full-time faculty such as comparisons to peer institutions, distribution of full-time/part-time faculty by teaching discipline, as well as student/faculty ratios. In addition to the characteristics and features, there was no discussion concerning faculty workload issues or a more comprehensive review of the role that full-time faculty members play in supporting the institution's mission. The institution is asked to demonstrate that the number of full-time faculty is adequate to support its mission and ensure the quality and integrity of academic offerings.

Guidelines for the monitoring report are enclosed. Because it is essential that institutions follow these guidelines, **please make certain that those responsible for preparing the report receive the document. If there are any questions about the format, contact the Commission staff member assigned to your institution.** When submitting your report, please send **five copies** to your Commission staff member.

Because your institution has been placed on a sanction, the Commission calls to your attention the enclosed policy entitled "Sanctions, Denial of Reaffirmation, and Removal from Membership."

Please note that Federal regulations and Commission policy stipulate that an institution must demonstrate compliance with all the standards and requirements of the *Principles of Accreditation* within two years following the Commission's initial action on the institution. At the end of that two-year period, if the institution does not comply with all the standards and requirements of the *Principles*, representatives from the institution may be required to appear before SACSCOC Board



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of Trustees, or one of its standing committees, to answer questions as to why the institution should not be removed from membership. If the Board determines good cause at that time, the Board may extend the period for coming into compliance for a minimum of six months and a maximum of two years and must place the institution on Probation. If the Board does not determine good cause, the institution must be removed from membership. *(See enclosed Commission policy "Sanctions, Denial of Reaffirmation, and Removal from Membership.")*

If you have any questions regarding this letter or the process, please contact your Commission staff member.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Belle S. Wheelan".

Belle S. Wheelan, Ph.D.
President

BSW:sf

Enclosures

cc: Dr. Rudolph S. Jackson
Mr. Morris E. Foster, Chair, Board of Trustees