September 23, 2003

Dr. Donald G. Sargeant
Chancellor
University of Minnesota-Crookston
2900 University Ave.
Crookston, MN 56716

Dear Chancellor Sargeant:

The progress report you submitted to our office has now been reviewed. A staff analysis of the report is enclosed.

On behalf of the Commission, I accept the report on assessment of student learning. No further reports are required. The institution’s next comprehensive evaluation is scheduled for 2004-05.

I am also enclosing a copy of the institution’s Statement of Affiliation Status, which reflects the actions I have taken on behalf of the Commission. If you have any questions about this analysis or any other evaluation matters, please let me know. I can be reached via email at btaylor@hlcommission.org or by voice at (800) 621-7440 x 139.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Barbara Pollard Taylor, Mus.Ed.D.
Assistant Director for Process Integrity

Enclosures

cc: Diane Nyhammer, Assistant Director for Accreditation Services

[Signature]
STAFF ANALYSIS OF INSTITUTIONAL REPORT

DATE: September 23, 2003
STAFF LIAISON: Diane Nyhammer
REVIEWED BY: Barbara Pollard Taylor

INSTITUTION: University of Minnesota-Crookston, Crookston, MN

EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Donald G. Sargeant, Chancellor

PREVIOUS COMMISSION ACTION RE: REPORT: A progress report due on 5/31/03 focused on assessment of student learning. The Commission extended the due date of the report to 6/30/03 at the request of the institution.

ITEMS ADDRESSED IN REPORT: The Commission office received the University of Minnesota-Crookston (UM-C) assessment report on 07/01/03

STAFF ANALYSIS: In September 2001, UM-C submitted a monitoring report that described its plans for assessing general education and program outcomes. Staff analysis of the report recommended that the required progress report on assessment that is due at the Commission 5/30/03 also address the following issues:

• Connection between assessment results and institutional decision-making;
• Faculty involvement in assessment;
• Assessment across academic programs; and
• Direct assessment of student learning outcomes.

The 2001 monitoring report of UM-C’s assessment implementation described the institution’s progress in addressing student learning outcomes across general education core components, and the program major. Since the 2001 report, the UM-C assessment implementation has continued to evolve:

• General education faculty have proposed revisions to the outcomes for each area and to the configuration of courses among disciplines. They propose to align these with other Minnesota colleges and universities.
• Faculty have examined syllabi, agreed on common learner outcomes, developed measurements and otherwise participated in assessment activities.
• Institution has revised the curriculum core components and endorsed the revised components.
• Plan for program major assessments was adopted in April 2002. To date, six-degree programs have completed the process.

In addressing the areas identified in staff analysis of the monitoring report, UM-C noted that:

• Learning outcome data will inform practice and decision-making as they become available.
• Faculty development activities focusing on assessment are encouraged. A Bush Foundation Grant supports several of these activities.
• Assessment Committee is piloting a campus-wide evaluative process for assessing student learning in the internship experience.
• Direct measures of student learning include both norm referenced and criterion-referenced measures.

Appended to the UM-C report were documents that provided a timeline for assessing the internship program and evaluate student learning across the core and in the major, a report of faculty development assessment activities as a result of the Bush Foundation grant, results of surveys, and examples of program review materials. The University has addressed the issues raised by the evaluation team and the Commission and no further reports are required.

STAFF ACTION: Accept the report focused on assessment of student learning. No further reports are due. The institution's next comprehensive evaluation is scheduled for 2004-05.
Statement of Affiliation Status

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA-CROOKSTON
2900 University Ave.
Crookston, MN 56716

Status: Accredited (1971-.)

Highest degree awarded: Bachelor's.


Stipulations on affiliation status: Offerings outside the state are limited to courses offered in North Dakota. Delivery of Bachelor's degrees to off-campus sites is limited to the Bachelors in Manufacturing at Warroad (with Northwest Technical College) and the Twin Cities metropolitan area and the Bachelors in Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional Management at Marshall (with Southwest State University).

New degree sites: Prior Commission approval required.

Progress reports required: None.

Monitoring reports required: None.

Contingency reports required: None.

Other visits required: None.

Last comprehensive evaluation: 1994-95.

Next comprehensive evaluation: 2004-05.