

STEERING COMMITTEE ON REAFFIRMATION (SCOR) CHARGE

On behalf of Interim Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Hal Stern, we write to invite you to participate on UCI's Steering Committee on Reaffirmation (SCOR), which will provide leadership and direction for our campus' 10-year comprehensive review by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC). SCOR, an inclusive group of faculty, administrators, Senate leaders, staff, and students, will commence its work this September and conclude in winter 2023, following WASC's accreditation visit to the campus. We anticipate SCOR will average one meeting per month. UCI expects reaffirmation in spring 2023—an accomplishment that will signal our commitment to continue delivering on our promise to provide students with the high-quality educational experience for which we are well known and highly ranked. More concretely, accreditation allows our students to secure financial aid, transfer credits, and hold credible degrees upon graduation.

Reporting to the Provost, SCOR will oversee, coordinate, and ensure successful completion of all aspects of UCI's reaffirmation of accreditation process. The group's charge includes the following activities:

- Become familiar with the timeline, key phases, and milestones associated with the WSCUC accreditation process;
- Offer feedback on project and communications plans, as well as draft documents;
- Contribute to the identification, development, and promotion of institutional themes that will be the heart of the reaffirmation effort and most likely will have transformational impact for our students;
- Serve on a theme-specific subcommittee related to your expertise and/or area of interest;
- Facilitate broad campus participation in the reaffirmation accreditation process; and
- Participate in campus preparations for the Off-site Review (spring 2022) and Accreditation Visit (fall 2022).

As a result of our past success with WSCUC, the agency has approved UCI's participation in an alternative pathway to reaffirmation in 2023—a thematic pathway, in which we identify a limited number of themes to serve as a framework for connecting our institutional context and priorities with the Core Commitments and the Standards of Accreditation. Using this approach, we benefit from spending less time and effort addressing each and every accreditation criterion and, instead, we are able to promote significant institutional engagement and improvement on important issues, especially relating to student achievement and educational effectiveness.