



July 3, 2018

Dr. Cheryl Davenport Dozier  
President  
Savannah State University  
3219 College Street  
Savannah, GA 31404-5310

Dear Dr. Dozier:

The following action regarding your institution was taken by the Board of Trustees of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) during its meeting held on June 14, 2018:

The SACSCOC Board of Trustees reviewed the institution's Referral Report submitted following review of its Fifth-Year Interim Report in June 2017. The Report included financial statements. The institution is requested to submit a Monitoring Report due April 1, 2019, addressing the following referenced standards of *the Principles of Accreditation*:

**Standard 13.6 (Federal and state responsibilities) [formerly CS 3.10.2]**

*This standard expects that an institution (a) is in compliance with its program responsibilities under Title IV of the most recent Higher Education Act as amended and (b) audits financial aid programs as required by federal and state regulations.*

The institution provided evidence in the form of three years of State of Georgia Single Audits to demonstrate that Federal Funds are audited annually. The Single Audit noted deficiencies related to the institution's responsibilities to return Title IV funds. Although the institution has developed a plan to address the deficiencies noted, it was not able to provide externally verified evidence that the plan has been fully implemented and that the findings have been addressed in a satisfactory manner.

**Standard 13.7 (Physical resources) [formerly CS 3.11.1]**

*This standard expects an institution to ensure adequate physical facilities and resources, both on and off campus, that appropriately serve the needs of the institution's educational programs, support services, and other mission-related activities.*

The institution described maintenance projects that had been completed as well as plans to address deferred maintenance as described in faculty and student survey results. However, the institution did not provide evidence that its physical facilities appropriately serve the needs of its educational programs, support services, and other mission-related activities.

As part of the report, the institution is required to submit financial audit reports for the two most recent fiscal years and include its most recent financial aid audit. The most recent year is defined as the fiscal year ending immediately prior to the due date of this report. In addition, the institution is required to include a statement of financial position of unrestricted



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net assets, exclusive of plant assets and plant-related debt, which represents the change in unrestricted net assets attributable to operations for the most recent year.

**NOTE:** In the transition from the 2012 to the 2018 edition of the *Principles of Accreditation*, institutions were permitted to use the former standards. For all future reports, the institution must demonstrate compliance with the 2018 *Principles* as required by the Board. Failure to comply with Core Requirements would result in the institution being placed on sanction.

Guidelines for the monitoring report are enclosed. Since 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 SACSCOC staff member.

Please note that Federal regulations and SACSCOC's policy stipulate that an institution must demonstrate compliance with all requirements and standards of the *Principles of Accreditation* within two years following SACSCOC's Board of Trustees' initial action on the institution. At the end of that two-year period, if the institution does not comply with all standards and requirements of the *Principles*, representatives from the institution may be required to appear before the Board, or one of its standing committees, to answer questions as to why the institution should not be removed from membership. If the Board of Trustees determines good cause at that time and the institution has not been on Probation for both years during the two-year monitoring period, 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. An institution may be on Probation for a maximum of two years. If the Board does not determine good cause or if the institution does not come into compliance within the specified period of time while on Probation, the institution must be removed from membership. (See enclosed SACSCOC's policy "Sanctions, Denial of Reaffirmation, and Removal from Membership.")

We appreciate your continued support of SACSCOC's activities and work. If you have questions, please contact the SACSCOC staff member assigned to your institution.

Sincerely,

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

Belle S. Wheelan, Ph.D.  
President

BSW:lbw

Enclosures

cc: Dr. Nuria M. Cuevas, Vice President, SACSCOC