

Accrediting Council

On Education in Journalism and Mass Communications

Patricia Thompson
Executive Director

May 9, 2022

Pamela Whitten, President
Indiana University

Dear President Whitten:

The Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications met April 29 and voted 15-1 that the undergraduate program in the Journalism Unit in The Media School at Indiana University receive provisional reaccreditation. There was one refusal. The Council concurred with the site team and Committee recommendations for provisional reaccreditation. James Kelly, director, attended the meeting.

Council members discussed the noncompliances on Standard 3 (Diversity and Inclusiveness) and on Standard 9 (Assessment of Learning Outcomes).

Our policies state that a unit may receive provisional accreditation when the Council has found weaknesses that can be corrected within two years. We will be in touch with the director to schedule a two-person revisit team. Revisits usually take place one or two years after the initial visit. During the revisit, the Journalism Unit will be reviewed for progress on the areas identified as deficiencies in the site team report: faculty diversity and inclusion of diversity into the curriculum, and an assessment plan tied to ACEJMC values and competencies.

Council procedures require that I tell you of your right to appeal this decision. You must notify the ACEJMC office within 30 days of receipt of this letter if you wish to make an appeal.

Grounds for appeal of a decision to award provisional accreditation must be based on one or more of the following: 1) evidence that the Council failed to adhere to applicable adopted procedures; 2) evidence that, based upon the record before the Council, the decision was arbitrary and capricious or not supported by substantial evidence. Appeals must be made in writing and must be based on concrete evidence that was in the record before the Council at the time of the original decision. All expenses of the appeal, including travel, shall be paid by the institution initiating the appeal.

If an appeal is filed, while it is pending and before a decision on the appeal is made by the Council, there will be no change in the accredited status of the Journalism Unit. The status will remain the same as currently listed following the 2015 vote (reaccredited).

Thank you for the opportunity to participate with your faculty and administrators in the assessment of your program. The goal of the Accrediting Council is to improve the quality of education offered

to students served by a program through that assessment. Please accept my best wishes for success for the Journalism Unit, its students, faculty and the professional media constituencies it serves.

Sincerely,



Peter Bhatia
ACEJMC President

cc: James Kelly, director, Journalism Unit
Joel Kaplan, chair, site team
Marie Hardin, chair, Accrediting Committee
Patricia Thompson, executive director, ACEJMC