

# Accrediting Council

On Education in Journalism and Mass Communications

Patricia Thompson  
Executive Director

Stephen Perez, President  
San Jose State University

August 31, 2022

Dear President Perez:

The Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications met April 29 and voted 15-0 that the undergraduate program in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at San Jose State University receive provisional reaccreditation. There was one abstention, and one Council member recused himself because of a conflict of interest.

The vote for provisional reaccreditation followed a failed motion to reaccredit, 5-10, with one abstention and one recusal.

The site team had recommended reaccreditation, and the ACEJMC Committee, at its meeting in March, had voted 12-2 in favor of reaccreditation. The Council discussed the program's noncompliance with Standard 9 (Assessment of Learning Outcomes). Council members expressed concerns about the program's previous noncompliances on the same standard.

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 of the school to schedule a two-person revisit team. Revisits usually take place one or two years after the initial visit. During the revisit, the team will examine evidence of assessing student learning, identifying weaknesses, taking action and evaluating results.

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.

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 Hussman School of Journalism and Media, its students, faculty and the professional media constituencies it serves.

Sincerely,



Peter Bhatia  
ACEJMC President

cc: Phylis West, director, School of Journalism and Mass Communications  
Kristin Gilger, chair, site team  
Marie Hardin, chair, Accrediting Committee  
Patricia Thompson, executive director, ACEJMC