

Accrediting Council

On Education in Journalism and Mass Communications

Susanne Shaw
Executive Director

May 8, 2017

Andrew Roth
President
St. Bonaventure University
St. Bonaventure, NY 14778

Dear President Roth:

The Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications voted 16-2, with six members abstaining, at its April 28-29 meeting in Chicago that provisional accreditation be given to the undergraduate program in the Jandoli School of Communication at St. Bonaventure University. Pauline Hoffmann, dean of the Jandoli School of communication, attended the meeting.

The Council then voted 10-7, with seven members abstaining, that provisional accreditation be given to the graduate program in the Jandoli School of Communication.

The Council discussed the site visit team's and the Committee's recommendation for provisional accreditation. The Council discussed the school's non-compliance with two standards:

Standard 3: Diversity and Inclusiveness
Standard 9: Assessment of Learning Outcomes

The Council's procedures say: "A unit may receive provisional accreditation or reaccreditation when the Council has found weaknesses that can be corrected within two years." Schools have the option to schedule a revisit in one or two years.

If you wish to have a revisit in the 2017-18 academic year, you must submit a request no later than Aug. 1, 2017, and the revisit must occur no later than Feb. 1, 2018. For a revisit during the 2018-19 academic year, a request must be made no later than Aug. 1, 2018, and the revisit must occur no later than Feb. 1, 2019.

Please send your formal request along with sufficient documentation that all identified weaknesses have been corrected. The letter and accompanying material should be sent to Susanne Shaw, executive director. Two people will revisit the undergraduate and graduate programs in the Jandoli School of Communication. The revisit will focus on Standard 3: Diversity and Inclusiveness and Standard 9: Assessment of Learning Outcomes.

The team chair will make a recommendation to the Accrediting Committee and the Committee's recommendation will be forwarded to the Accrediting Council.

The expenses of the revisit to St. Bonaventure University and the team chair's expenses to the Committee meeting to present the revisit report will be paid by the Jandoli School of Communication. If you or Dean Hoffmann have questions about what should be addressed, please contact Susanne Shaw.

Council procedures require that I tell you of your right to appeal this decision. I have enclosed a copy of the appeals procedures, which specifies that you must notify me 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.

If the Jandoli School of Communication chooses to appeal this decision, the Council will consider that appeal at its Aug. 25 meeting in Chicago. While an appeal 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 Jandoli School of Communication.

All expenses of the appeal, including travel, shall be paid by the institution initiating the appeal. Eighty percent of the estimated costs of the appeal hearing must be sent to the ACEJMC office two weeks before the date of the scheduled Appeals Board meeting.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate with your faculty and administration in the assessment of your journalism program. The goal of the Accrediting Council is to improve the quality of education offered to students served by a program through that assessment.

Sincerely,



Peter Bhatia
President

cc: Pauline Hoffmann, dean, Jandoli School of Communication
Jerry Ceppos, chair, site team
Chris Callahan, chair, Accrediting Committee
Susanne Shaw, executive director, ACEJMC