June 29, 2022

Robin Farias-Eisner, M.D., Ph.D., M.B.A., President Western University of Health Sciences 209 E. Second St. Pomona, CA 91766-1854

Dear Dr. Farias-Eisner:

At its Annual Meeting on June 15-18, 2022, the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE) considered the report of the *March 7-9, 2022, on-site evaluation visit to the professional optometric degree program at the Western University of Health Sciences College of Optometry.*The Council voted to accept the body of the report and to adopt the Council Summary, the suggestions appended to the report, and the summary of compliance regarding the disposition of the Standards. Further, the Council voted the program's classification of "Accredited" be continued. The classification "Accredited" indicates that the program generally meets the ACOE standards for accreditation. This classification indicates that the program has no deficiencies or weaknesses that compromise the educational effectiveness of the total program. The Council finds the program to be in compliance with all of the ACOE standards. The final evaluation report is enclosed.

The Council policies indicate that professional optometric degree programs must be evaluated through an on-site evaluation visit at least once every **eight (8) years**. Currently the next scheduled evaluation visit to the professional optometric degree program at the Western University of Health Sciences College of Optometry is in **March 2030**.

Accreditation is measured from the date of the most recent evaluation visit. Since accreditation status is subject to continual review, programs publicly representing their accreditation status should avoid phrases as "accreditation has been continued for an eight-year period." Depending on the outcomes of annual reports, progress reports, interim visits, substantive program change requests and other events affecting a program, the Council may decide to schedule a full on-site evaluation before the original eight-year accreditation period is complete.

The 2022 abbreviated annual report of the Western University of Health Sciences College of Optometry was also reviewed at the ACOE's Annual Meeting, June 15-18, 2022. Regarding the program's annual report, the Council passed the following motion:

The 2022 abbreviated annual report of the Western University of Health Sciences College of Optometry is acknowledged. In a progress report due September 15, 2022, the program must demonstrate it has updated its website to reflect annual institutional pass rates for all first-time takers of NBEO Parts I, II, and III as measured using all first-time test takers within the defined year of administration (not graduating cohort). Please refer to guidance from ACOE staff sent April 22, 2022; additional guidance will be distributed shortly.

For more information on the policies, procedures, and standards of the ACOE, the program is encouraged to review information published on the ACOE's website, www.theACOE.org. The Council welcomes input on its policies, procedures and standards and invites you to contact Stephanie Puljak, ACOE Director at spuljak@aoa.org with questions, concerns, or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Stephanie S. Messner, O.D.

Stephane Shero

ACOE Chair

G. Timothy Petito, O.D.

ACOE Vice Chair, incoming Chair

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Enclosure

cc: Elizabeth Hoppe, O.D., M.P.H., Dr.P.H., Evaluation Team, ACOE