



9312 Old Georgetown Road  
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P 301.581.9200 | F 301.571.4903  
www.cpme.org

May 19, 2016

Lawrence Harkless, DPM  
Dean  
Western University of Health Sciences  
College of Podiatric Medicine  
309 East Second Street  
Pomona, CA 91766

Dear Dr. Harkless:

On behalf of the Council on Podiatric Medical Education, I am pleased to inform you of the decision of the Council regarding the accreditation of the Western University of Health Sciences College of Podiatric Medicine. The Council's action was taken at its recent meeting held on April 30.

Based on review of the comprehensive report of the evaluation team, the College's written response to the team report, and the presentation by Dr. Steve Friedrichsen and you to the Accreditation Committee on April 28, the Council granted accreditation of the Western University of Health Sciences College School of Podiatric Medicine through April 2024. On-site re-evaluation may be expected during the fall of 2023. The maximum first year class enrollment for your institution is 50.

The evaluation team that visited the College on February 1-4 identified three areas of potential noncompliance. Following review of the team report, your response to the recommendations and potential areas of noncompliance in the report, Dr. Friedrichsen's and your presentation, and recommendation of the Accreditation Committee, the Council concurred with the findings of the evaluation team. Based on recommendation of the Accreditation Committee, the Council also identified a fourth area of noncompliance related to faculty qualifications (requirement 5A).

Enclosed is a copy of the final approved evaluation report, identifying the findings of the evaluation team.

Based on a recommendation of the Accreditation Committee, the Council requests:

- that the School submit a progress report by September 1 for consideration during the October 19, 2016 Accreditation Committee meeting responding to the areas of noncompliance identified in the February 2016 on-site evaluation team report and the concern identified related to the College's graduation rate, and



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- that the School submit a progress report by March 1, 2017 for consideration at the April 2017 meetings of the Committee and the Council that includes the College's updates to recommendations 1, 3-5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 14 identified in the February 2016 on-site evaluation team report.

Specific to **requirements 4D and 5A**, the Council requests that the College's response include but not be limited to the following information:

- At least 10 representative examples of case-based, other didactic, laboratory, or simulation training anatomy instruction
- Related to both biomechanics and lower extremity anatomy, student and institutional board score data by subject
- Council of Teaching Hospital residency director survey results
- Student course survey results
- Plans to either recruit or develop faculty with demonstrated expertise in biomechanics

In general, the College's response should document adequate content in biomechanics and that expected student learning experiences in lower extremity anatomy (with emphasis on the foot and ankle) are attained in cases to make up for the brevity of lower extremity training elsewhere.

Specific to **requirement 5B**, the Council requests that the College's response include but not be limited to the following information:

- New faculty hiring plan
- Results of the efforts identified by you at the Accreditation Committee
- Titles and responsibilities of any new hires
- Effect of the hires on the college of podiatric medicine (e.g., current faculty, students, and clinical coverage)

Specific to **requirements 4D and 7A**, the Council requests that the College's response include but not be limited to the following information:

- Floor plans, equipment procured, and schedule of use for the space identified in the dental lab
- Faculty and student involvement



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The Council previously forwarded you a copy of a policy adopted at the April 2015 CPME meeting that formalizes information the Council will request when a college of podiatric medicine does not meet one or more of the outcomes measures required by the Council. Consequently, the Council requests that the College provide the following information to be submitted by September 1 for consideration at the October meetings of the Accreditation Committee and CPME:

- Analysis of factors contributing to the low graduation rates
- Plan to address the targeted measure
- Annual improvement targets
- Confirmation that the plan to meet the outcome will be completed within two years

While the Council requests an update to each recommendation identified above, the Council also requests the following information and raises the following questions related to some of the recommendations for which it has requested updates.

1. Who has the final authority to approve the College's mission?
4. Examples of skills that should be included in the updates are biomechanical evaluations, injections, and casting techniques.
5. Confirmation that the documentation of student clinical encounters includes all patient encounters as well as identification of biomechanics training. Please provide the initial analysis of the review of training experienced.
9. Who has authority to make the final grading decision? How many CPM faculty accept the invitation to attend course and examination preparatory and review meetings? Provide examples of their input.
14. How much is the budgetary line item for residency genesis? How is it being used, specifically?

In keeping with Council procedures, we request that a copy of this correspondence be made available to the members of the University's Board of Trustees.



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A certificate of accreditation also is enclosed.

Please feel free to contact me at either extension 290 or [artinkleman@cpme.org](mailto:artinkleman@cpme.org) should you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Alan Tinkleman'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Alan' being more prominent.

Alan Tinkleman  
Director

enclosures

c: Gary Gugelchuk, PhD; Interim President  
Lori DeBlasi, DPM; CPME Chair  
Kieran Mahan, DPM; Accreditation Committee Chair