

Message from Chancellor Holden Thorp: Accrediting Agency Decision

Thursday, June 20, 2013

Dear Carolina Community:

Over the past year, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) has been reviewing the University's compliance with accreditation requirements in light of past academic irregularities in the Department of African and Afro-American Studies.

Earlier today, I was notified that the SACSCOC Board of Trustees has decided not to sanction the University. The University remains accredited and in good standing with SACSCOC. We will be asked to provide a monitoring report by next June on continued progress with our academic procedures in the department.

We are very pleased with this decision. Throughout this process, the University has been treated fairly by SACSCOC. We have provided information, responded to all questions, taken necessary actions, and documented the comprehensive reforms that we have put in place over the past two years because of issues related to the unprofessional and unethical actions of two former department employees.

We are confident the sweeping changes we have made, based on the results of seven internal and independent, outside reviews or investigations, will prevent any recurrence of these irregularities.

For more information about SACSCOC and this issue, visit the University's accreditation website, <http://oira.unc.edu/accreditation/>.

As a founding member of SACSCOC, we are committed to an accreditation process, led by colleagues from our peer campuses in the region, that ensures accountability and strong academic standards. Under Chancellor Folt's leadership, I'm confident that Carolina will bring our response to SACSCOC to a successful conclusion.

Sincerely,

Holden Thorp