April 24, 2012

Mr. Thomas R. Case  
Chancellor  
University of Alaska Anchorage  
3211 Providence Drive  
Anchorage, AK 99508

Dear Chancellor Case:

This is to inform you of recent action taken by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities regarding University of Alaska Anchorage's request for approval to move to a higher degree level with the delivery of the Doctor of Clinical-Community Psychology (Ph.D.) degree program. The program is presently jointly delivered in partnership by both University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) and University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF).

In reviewing this prospectus, the Commission notes that the proposed Ph.D. program builds upon the University's existing resources for the jointly delivered program in Clinical-Community Psychology with its partner, University of Alaska Fairbanks. The Ph.D. degree program requires 115 total semester credits offered in a five-year sequence of courses including three summer sessions. The University anticipates an annual enrollment of 8 students at University of Alaska Anchorage. Two program co-directors from UAA and UAF will provide oversight for the Ph.D. program. Faculty workload will be redistributed to accommodate a workload of 40% research, 40% teaching, and 20% service. The University intends to financially support students with research assistantships, teaching assistantships and other service-related assistantships. Moreover, the University has planned to define institutional criteria for future review and approval of proposed doctoral programs. Further, the University is creating academic policies appropriate for doctoral programs.

In accordance with Commission Policy A-2, the institution's prospectus has now been reviewed and approved as a substantive change. Accordingly, the proposed Doctor of Clinical-Community Psychology degree program is now included under the accreditation of University of Alaska Anchorage and will be reviewed as part of the institution's Fall 2013 Year Three Self-Evaluation Report, and all subsequent evaluation reports. The University is granted candidacy status at the doctoral level and the Commission will take action on this status at its January 2014 meeting following the evaluation of the University's Year Three Self-Evaluation Report.
Thank you for keeping the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities apprised of the developments and initiatives at University of Alaska Anchorage. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

All the best.

Sincerely,

Les L. Steele
Executive Vice President

cc:  Ms. Megan Carlson, Assistant Vice Provost
     Dr. Sandra E. Elman, President, NWCCU