December 18, 1997

Dr. George H. Emert  
President  
Utah State University  
UMC 1435  
Logan, UT 84322-1435

Dear President Emert:

On behalf of the Commission on Colleges, I am pleased to report that the accreditation of Utah State University has been reaffirmed on the basis of the recent comprehensive self-study and full-scale evaluation. Congratulations on receiving this continued recognition.

The policy of the Commission is not to grant accreditation for a definite number of years. Instead, accreditation must be reaffirmed periodically. Each institution needs to conduct a self-study and be visited by a full evaluation committee at least once every ten years, and during the fifth year, the institution submits an interim report and is visited by at least one Commission representative. In the case of Utah State University, the Commission requested a focused interim report and evaluation visit in fall 1999 that is to address General Recommendation 1 of the 1997 Evaluation Committee Report (page 55). The recommendation states:

1. While the committee found assessment activities are evolving in a generally positive direction, institutional efforts are uneven and coordination is lacking. Methodologies which assess outcomes rather than inputs, and quality rather than quantity need to be improved in some cases and implemented in others. The committee recommends, as others have done in the past, that the University meet the requirements of Commission Policy 2.2. - Educational Assessment.

Please note, the University is to use the Accreditation Handbook, 1996 edition, in its preparation of the focused interim report for fall 1999.

We will write to the University in spring 1999 regarding the report and to schedule a visit for the visit.

Again, congratulations. Best wishes for a peaceful and joyful holiday season.

Sincerely,

Sandra Elman  
Executive Director

SEE:ppj
cc: Dr. G. Jay Gogue, Provost

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