



Senior College and
University Commission

Substantive Change Action Report

Proposal Information:

Proposal Review Date	May 04, 2016
Institution	Point Loma Nazarene University
Type of Substantive Change	Distance Education
Program Name / Location	BA Organizational Management
ALO	Kerry D. Fulcher
WASC Staff Liaison	Brenda Barham Hill
Committee Reviewers	Robyn Nelson, Ludmila Praslova

Committee Action and Date (See Attached)

Additional Information¹ (See Attached):

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interim Approval on <u>5/4/2016</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Refer to Commission (No visit) on _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notification of Implementation <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Site Visit Required <input type="checkbox"/> International Visit Required <input type="checkbox"/> Fast Track <input type="checkbox"/> Non Compliance <input type="checkbox"/> Competency Based Degree
¹ Items checked or listed above must be fulfilled in order to finalize Substantive Change Approval	

Commission Approval and Date (For Institutional Tracking)^{2,3}:

<input type="checkbox"/> Approved on _____ Implementation of an approved change must occur within two years of Commission approval. If the change will be implemented more than two years after the approval date; contact your WASC Staff Liaison to determine if the change requires re-approval.
<input type="checkbox"/> Not Approved on _____

² Commission approval of a new degree program signifies that the program is covered by the WASC accreditation of the institution as a whole. Approval by WASC should not be represented, in marketing materials or any other forms of communication, as program-specific accreditation, such as that bestowed by specialized, professional, or programmatic accrediting organizations.

³ Record the date that the Commission took action on this Substantive Change proposal for your records.

Findings of the Committee:

Commendations:

1. The program is clearly aligned with institutional planning, vision and strategy of PLNU.
2. The University is committed to ensuring adequate financial underwriting to support the development of new online courses.
3. Online tools, especially the media tour of Canvas for online students, are commendable.

Recommendations:

1. Future substantive change proposals should provide a more expanded discussion of the need for the program in terms of evidence of interest from prospective students. (CFRs 2.1, 2.12, 4.1-4.3, 4.6, 4.7)
2. Program marketing and admission materials for new online programs should provide sufficient information for prospective students to understand essential features of the program, the online environment and expectations. (CFR 2.12)
3. PLNU should more clearly describe credit hour expectations for online courses, especially for those that do not follow a

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traditional semester, in future substantive change proposals. The University's Credit Hour Policy should be modified to reflect the change of academic terms from the traditional 15 week semester. (CFRs 2.1, 2.2)

4. PLNU should closely monitor online students' ability to meet credit hour and workload expectations of enrolling in 4 unit courses within 7 week terms to ensure student success and retention. (CFRs 2.12, 4.1)

5. Budgets for proposed new programs should clearly present the new revenues and expenses associated with the program for which approval is being requested. If the budget is combined with other programs, this should be clarified in the proposal narrative so that review panel understands how the institution expects to achieve and maintain the fiscal viability of the program under review. (CFR 3.4)

WASC Liaison Signature:

Brenda Barkman Hill / K

Date: 5/9/2016