April 5, 2013

Gary Gugelchuk, PhD
Provost
Western University of Health Sciences
309 E. Second Street
Pomona, CA 91766
Email address: gugelchuk@westernu.edu

Dear Dr. Gugelchuk:

The Western University of Health Sciences Physician Assistant Program has been granted Accreditation-Continued. This decision is based on the program application and appendices, the report of the site visit team, the program response and its accreditation history.

The ARC-PA noted four (4) areas of noncompliance with the Standards. Please see the companion Word document for the complete report and requested response.

The program is required to submit a response no later than July 1, 2013. Failure to do so may result in the scheduling of a Focused Visit and/or reconsideration of the program’s accreditation status.

The approximate date for the next validation review of the program by the ARC-PA will be March 2020. The review date is contingent upon continued compliance with the Standards and ARC-PA policy. The ARC-PA reserves the right to adjust the date or schedule.

The program will be contacted by the ARC-PA in advance of that review regarding details of the application, reports and site visit.

Please note that the program is approved to accept up to a class size of 98. The ARC-PA will not consider an increase in class size or expansion to a distant campus from any accredited program until the program has maintained five years of continued accreditation without an adverse accreditation status.
To communicate the program’s accreditation status in all printed and electronic media, the program and institution must use the following statement exactly as written.

The Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA) has granted Accreditation-Continued to the Western University of Health Sciences Physician Assistant Program sponsored by the Western University of Health Sciences. Accreditation-Continued is an accreditation status granted when a currently accredited program is in compliance with the ARC-PA Standards.

Accreditation remains in effect until the program closes or withdraws from the accreditation process or until accreditation is withdrawn for failure to comply with the Standards. The approximate date for the next validation review of the program by the ARC-PA will be March 2020. The review date is contingent upon continued compliance with the Accreditation Standards and ARC-PA policy.

The ARC-PA reminds the program to update its data in the Program Management Portal so that it is always current. The program is also encouraged to review the Standards, in particular Section E, regarding maintenance of accreditation. You will find the Standards, an accreditation manual and other helpful information on our website, www.arc-pa.org.

We appreciate the commitment and dedication to quality PA education demonstrated by your participation in the accreditation process. If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

John E. McCarty
Executive Director

c: Stephanie Bowlin, EdD, PA; Dean; Email: sbowlin@westernu.edu
    Roy Guizado, MS, PA-C; Program Director; Email: roygpac@westernu.edu
    James A. Van Rhee, MS, PA-C, DFAAPA; Chair, ARC-PA
    Lynn D. Fleisher, PhD, JD; Legal Counsel, ARC-PA