



AMERICAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

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March 5, 2001

Dr. Shirley D. Johnston, Dean
College of Veterinary Medicine
Western University of Health Sciences
309 E. Second Street – College Plaza
Pomona, CA 91766-1854

Dear Dean Johnston:

Via Facsimile and Mail

This is to inform you that the AVMA Council on Education (COE) has granted Western University of Health Sciences a letter of reasonable assurance based upon the plan submitted to establish a college of veterinary medicine (as accepted in part by the COE in February 2, 1999 [Standards 1, 7, and 10], February 29, 2000 [Standards 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, and 11], and March 5, 2001 [Standards 3 and 9]). The letter is effective March 5, 2001. A college receiving a letter of reasonable assurance but failing to implement a veterinary medical education program in three (3) years must reapply. The program will be reviewed annually and the letter of reasonable assurance may be renewed or may be revoked.

The Council determined that Western's plan, if followed and implemented, could meet the standards for accreditation. Should substantive changes occur in Western's business or educational plan, the Council must be notified in writing at the earliest date possible to remain in compliance with the letter of reasonable assurance. The Council must approve substantive changes to assure that the standards will not be compromised.

In addition to reporting changes in its plan, Western must submit biannual progress reports in writing to the Council. These reports should arrive by January 15 and July 15 of each year. The reports must describe the progress made under each standard. The COE may conduct a short site visit at any time. A full site visit will be conducted at Western in the spring semester of the year following admission of the first class. The basis for this site visit is to confirm Western's progress in meeting its plan, review any substantive changes to the plan, and confirm information in the biannual reports

The process of obtaining a letter of reasonable assurance is intended to assure that a school/college will provide a quality education for its students. As charged by the United States Department of Education, the Council will continue to monitor all veterinary schools/colleges to assure that students receive a quality education that prepares them for the profession.

Sincerely,

Donald G. Simmons, DVM, PhD, Director
Division of Education and Research

DGS/mm