

SENT VIA EMAIL



June 25, 2012

Dr. Teresa A. Sullivan

President

University of Virginia

1827 University Avenue

Charlottesville, VA 22904-4224

Dear Dr. Sullivan:

The Commission's policy, "Standing Rules, Commission on Colleges, Executive Council, and the College Delegate Assembly," (available at www.sacscoc.org) stipulates that the Commission give appropriate consideration to significant accreditation-related unsolicited information revealed about an institution between periods of scheduled review. This policy provides that an institution be afforded the opportunity to respond to concerns raised by the review of the unsolicited information.

I am writing you today because recent news in multiple sources (e.g., [Inside Higher Ed](#), [Academe Today/The Chronicle of Higher Education](#), etc.) regarding the dismissal of President A. Teresa Sullivan taken by the University of Virginia (UVA) Board of Regents

have raised questions about UVA's ongoing compliance with *The Principles of Accreditation*. In light of these circumstances and in accordance with the Commission's policy on handling unsolicited information, I am requesting that the institution prepare a report that explains and documents the extent of compliance with the following standards:

- ▶ Principle 1.1 Integrity
- ▶ Core Requirement 2.2 Governing Board (in particular control)
- ▶ Comprehensive Standard 3.7.5 Faculty Role in Governance

Please submit to my office two copies of the institution's response to this letter no later than (July 31, 2012). The response may be accompanied by documents relevant to the issues. *The Principles of Accreditation* may be found at www.sacscoc.org. A copy of *The Principles* will be included with the written copy of this letter which will follow this email communication.

In accord with Commission policy on the receipt of unsolicited information, the institution's response will be reviewed, and if Commission staff determines that the information is of factual substance and is accreditation related, the information and documentation, along with the institution's response will be forwarded to the Committees on Compliance and Reports for formal review. Or, it is possible that the President of the Commission could authorize a Special Committee to review the institution.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [404 679-4501, ext. 4525](tel:4046794501).

Sincerely,

Mark Smith

Mark V. Smith, Ed.D.

Vice President

SACSCOC

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Belle S. Wheelan, President SACSCOC

Helen E. Dragas, Rector Board of Visitors