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Reorganization of the University of Tennessee making University of Tennessee, Knoxville and the University of Tennessee Health Science Center separate entities (SACSCOC Response)

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SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS
COMMISSION ON COLLEGES

April 26, 2012

Dr. Joseph A. DiPietro
President
The University of Tennessee
831 Andy Holt Tower
Knoxville, TN 37996-0180

Dear Dr. DiPietro:

Thank you for your letter of April 2, 2012, notifying the Commission of the intent to realign the units currently included in the accreditation of the University of Tennessee in the following manner:

- The University of Tennessee – Knoxville will seek reaffirmation as a single unit, to include academic programs offered at the UT Institute on Agriculture.
- UT Health Science Center will seek separate accreditation as a unit of a member institution.

We accept the notification.

Because the UT Health Science Center is currently accredited as part of the University of Tennessee, the procedure for seeking separate accreditation is somewhat different from that of an institution with no previous association with the Commission. There will be no candidacy period. The institution will submit an *Application for Membership* (please see our website: www.sacscoc.org under the "Application Information" button), which will be reviewed by Commission staff. Please see the Commission's Policy Statement "*Separate Accreditation for Units of a Member Institution*," published on the Commission's website under the "Policies and Publications" button.

A representative or team from the Health Science Center in Memphis must attend the required workshop for applicant institutions on October 3, 2012, and we recommend they stay on for the optional "Institutional Effectiveness for Pre-Applicants" to be offered October 4, 2012. Both workshops will take place at the SACSCOC offices in Decatur, GA. Registration information is posted on the Commission website under the "Applicant Information" button. If you have additional questions about the separate accreditation process or the workshops, please contact Dr. Ann B. Chard (achard@sacscoc.org).

Best regards,



Belle S. Wheelan, Ph.D.
President

BSW/SLA:efk

cc: ✓ Dr. Katherine N. High, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Student Success
Dr. Steven M. Sheeley
Dr. Ann B. Chard