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### MSCHE Action Letter - November 17, 2017

Middle States Commission on Higher Education

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# Middle States Commission on Higher Education

3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-2680. Tel: 267-284-5000. Fax: 215-662-5501  
www.msche.org

November 17, 2017

RECEIVED

NOV 22 2017

Dr. Dawood Farahi  
President  
Kean University  
1000 Morris Avenue  
Box 411  
Union, NJ 07083

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
KEAN UNIVERSITY

Dear Dr. Farahi:

At its session on November 16, 2017, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education acted:

To accept the Periodic Review Report and to reaffirm accreditation. To request that, beginning in 2019 and in conjunction with each Annual Institutional Update, the institution provide further evidence of (1) assessment of the effectiveness of general education providing student learning opportunities (Standard III) and (2) institutional and unit level goals that are clearly stated, assessed appropriately, linked to mission and goal achievement, and that reflect conclusions drawn from assessment results (Standard VI). The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2021-2022.

This action is an affirming action, as explained in the policy *Accreditation Actions*, which is available on the Commission's website.

Enclosed is a copy of the institution's Statement of Accreditation Status (SAS) for your review. If any of the factual information is incorrect, please contact the Commission as soon as possible.

In accordance with Commission policy, the accreditation status of the institution must be accurately represented. Please ensure that published references to your institution's candidate status or accredited status (catalog, other publications, web page) are accurate and include the full name, address, and telephone number of the accrediting agency, and the effective date (month and year) when status was granted. Candidate for Accreditation is a status with the Commission that indicates that an institution has achieved membership and is progressing toward, but is not assured of, accreditation.

Dr. Dawood Farahi – Page 2

Please be assured of the continuing interest of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education in the well-being of Kean University. If any further clarification is needed regarding the SAS or other items in this letter, please feel free to contact Dr. Stephen J. Pugliese, Vice President.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary Wirt", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gary L. Wirt, Ed.D.  
Chair



**MIDDLE STATES COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION**  
3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-2680. Tel: 267-284-5000. Fax: 215-662-5501  
[www.msche.org](http://www.msche.org)

## STATEMENT OF ACCREDITATION STATUS

**KEAN UNIVERSITY**  
1000 Morris Avenue  
Box 411  
Union, NJ 07083  
Phone: (908) 737-5326; Fax: (908) 737-4636  
[www.kean.edu](http://www.kean.edu)

**Chief Executive Officer:** Dr. Dawood Farahi, President

### INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

**Enrollment (Headcount):** 13276 Undergraduate ; 2258 Graduate  
**Control:** Public  
**Affiliation:** Government-State - State university in New Jersey  
**2015 Carnegie Classification:** Master's Colleges & Universities - Larger Programs  
**Approved Degree Levels:** Bachelor's, Master's, Post-Master's Award/Cert/Diploma, Doctor's - Professional Practice (Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) ), Doctor's - Research/Scholarship;  
**Distance Education Programs:** Fully Approved  
**Accreditors Recognized by U.S. Secretary of Education:**

### Instructional Locations

**Branch Campuses:** None

**Additional Locations:** Kean Ocean, Toms River, NJ; Kean University in the People's Republic of China, Wenzhou, Zhejiang Province, China.

**Other Instructional Sites:** Bayonne School District, Bayonne, NJ; Bergen Community College, Paramus, NJ; Central State Medical Center, Freehold Twp., NJ; Clark Twp. School District, Clark, NJ; Edison Township School District, Edison, NJ; Harmony Education & Life Partners, Irvington, NJ; Hazlet School District, Hazlet, NJ; Jersey Shore Medical Center, Neptune, NJ; Kean University - Highlands Site, Oak Ridge, NJ; Lakeview School District, Edison, NJ; Linden School District, Linden, NJ; Livingston Twp. School District, Livingston,

NJ; Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District, Aberdeen, NJ; Michael Graves Architecture & Design Center at Princeton, Princeton, NJ; Middlesex County College, Edison, NJ; Monmouth Regional HS District, Tinton Falls, NJ; Montclair School District, Montclair, NJ; Morristown Memorial Hospital, Morristown, NJ; Mountain Lakes School District, Mountain Lakes, NJ; North Brunswick Twp. School District, North Brunswick, NJ; Ocean Township School District, Oakhurst, NJ; Oldbridge Twp. School District, Matawan, NJ; Passaic Valley Regional HS District, Little Falls, NJ; Perth Amboy School District, Perth Amboy, NJ; Plainfield School District, Plainfield, NJ; Raritan Valley Community College, Twp of Branchburg, NJ; Rutgers University - Scotch Plains Campus, Scotch Plains, NJ; Rutgers/NJ Medical School, Newark, NJ; Scotch Plains-Fanwood School District, Scotch Plains, NJ; South Plainfield School District, South Plainfield, NJ; Summit Speech School, New Providence, NJ; The Gramon School, Fairfield, NJ; The Valley Hospital, Ridgewood, NJ; Watchung Hills Regional HS District, Warren, NJ; West New York School District, West New York, NJ.

## **ACCREDITATION INFORMATION**

**Status:** Member since 1960

**Last Reaffirmed:** November 16, 2017

### **Most Recent Commission Action:**

November 16, 2017: To accept the Periodic Review Report and to reaffirm accreditation. To request that, beginning in 2019 and in conjunction with each Annual Institutional Update, the institution provide further evidence of (1) assessment of the effectiveness of general education providing student learning opportunities (Standard III) and (2) institutional and unit level goals that are clearly stated, assessed appropriately, linked to mission and goal achievement, and that reflect conclusions drawn from assessment results (Standard VI). The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2021-2022.

### **Brief History Since Last Comprehensive Evaluation:**

November 15, 2012: To accept the monitoring report and the institution's response to third party comment and to note the visit by the Commission's representatives. To note that the institution is now in compliance with Standard 6 (Integrity), Standard 7 (Institutional Assessment), Standard 12 (General Education), and Standard 14 (Assessment of Student Learning) and to reaffirm accreditation. To request a monitoring report due by March 1, 2014, documenting evidence of (1) steps taken by the Board to regularly review and balance the roles and relationships among multiple constituencies as well as the structures and processes through which they participate in governance, and (2) steps taken by the leadership of the various constituencies to regularly articulate a shared

vision about the mission of the institution (Standard 6); (3) the development and implementation by all non-academic units of assessment processes that use substantive and direct measures to evaluate and improve outcomes related to unit as well as institutional mission and goals, and (4) the development and implementation by the University Planning Council of written procedures for the regular and systematic use of assessment results in planning, resource allocation, and institutional renewal (Standard 7); and (5) clearly articulated general education outcomes that are assessed in an organized, systematic, and sustainable manner, consistent with the institution's overall plan for assessing student learning, with assessment results that are utilized for curricular improvement (Standard 12). A visit will follow submission of the monitoring report. The Periodic Review Report is now due June 1, 2017.

March 5, 2013:

To acknowledge the substantive change request and to provisionally reclassify as an additional location the instructional site at Wenzhou University, WB402, No. 9 Building, Chashan Higher Education Park, Wenzhou, Zhejiang Province, People's Republic of China 325035, pending a site visit within six months of commencing operations at the site. To remind the institution that the monitoring report, due March 1, 2014, should document evidence of (1) steps taken by the Board to regularly review and balance the roles and relationships among multiple constituencies as well as the structures and processes through which they participate in governance, and (2) steps taken by the leadership of the various constituencies to regularly articulate a shared vision about the mission of the institution (Standard 6); (3) the development and implementation by all non-academic units of assessment processes that use substantive and direct measures to evaluate and improve outcomes related to unit as well as institutional mission and goals, and (4) the development and implementation by the University Planning Council of written procedures for the regular and systematic use of assessment results in planning, resource allocation, and institutional renewal (Standard 7); and (5) clearly articulated general education outcomes that are assessed in an organized, systematic, and sustainable manner, consistent with the institution's overall plan for assessing student learning, with assessment results that are utilized for curricular improvement (Standard 12). A visit will follow submission of the monitoring report. The Periodic Review Report is now due June 1, 2017.

November 21, 2013:

To note the visit by the Commission's representative and to affirm inclusion of the additional location at Wenzhou University, WB402, No. 9 Building, Chashan Higher Education Park, Wenzhou, Zhejiang Province, People's Republic of China 325035 within the scope of the institution's accreditation. To remind the institution that the monitoring report, due March 1, 2014, should document evidence of (1) steps taken

by the Board to regularly review and balance the roles and relationships among multiple constituencies as well as the structures and processes through which they participate in governance, and (2) steps taken by the leadership of the various constituencies to regularly articulate a shared vision about the mission of the institution (Standard 6); (3) the development and implementation by all non-academic units of assessment processes that use substantive and direct measures to evaluate and improve outcomes related to unit as well as institutional mission and goals, and (4) the development and implementation by the University Planning Council of written procedures for the regular and systematic use of assessment results in planning, resource allocation, and institutional renewal (Standard 7); and (5) clearly articulated general education outcomes that are assessed in an organized, systematic, and sustainable manner, consistent with the institution's overall plan for assessing student learning, with assessment results that are utilized for curricular improvement (Standard 12). A visit will follow submission of the monitoring report. The Periodic Review Report is now due June 1, 2017.

January 2, 2014:

To acknowledge receipt of the substantive change request. To approve the relocation of the additional location from WB402, No. 9 Building, Chashan Higher Education Park, The People's Republic of China, Wenzhou, Zhejian Province 32503 to College Road, Li'ao Town, Ou Hai District, People's Republic of China, Wenzhou, Zhejian Province 325060 and to include the new additional location within the scope of the institution's accreditation. To remind the institution that the monitoring report, due March 1, 2014, should document evidence of (1) steps taken by the Board to regularly review and balance the roles and relationships among multiple constituencies as well as the structures and processes through which they participate in governance, and (2) steps taken by the leadership of the various constituencies to regularly articulate a shared vision about the mission of the institution (Standard 6); (3) the development and implementation by all non-academic units of assessment processes that use substantive and direct measures to evaluate and improve outcomes related to unit as well as institutional mission and goals, and (4) the development and implementation by the University Planning Council of written procedures for the regular and systematic use of assessment results in planning, resource allocation, and institutional renewal (Standard 7); and (5) clearly articulated general education outcomes that are assessed in an organized, systematic, and sustainable manner, consistent with the institution's overall plan for assessing student learning, with assessment results that are utilized for curricular improvement (Standard 12). A visit will follow submission of the monitoring report. The Periodic Review Report is now due June 1, 2017.

- June 26, 2014: To accept the monitoring report and the institution's response to third party comment and to note the visit by the Commission's representatives. To request that the Periodic Review Report, due June 1, 2017, document evidence of 1) continued enhancement of communication among all constituent groups (Standard 6); 2) implementation of clear and consistent expectations for direct measures across all non-academic units (Standard 7); and 3) review of the learning outcomes for general education and consideration of a reduction in the number of outcomes (Standard 12).
- August 31, 2015: To acknowledge receipt of the substantive change request and to include the Doctor of Physical Therapy degree within the scope of the institution's accreditation, effective upon receipt of state approval.
- August 31, 2015: To acknowledge receipt of the substantive change request and to include the online Master of Arts in Educational Administration degree within the scope of the institution's accreditation. To remind the institution of the request that the Periodic Review Report, due June 1, 2017, document evidence of (1) continued enhancement of communication among all constituent groups (Standard 6); (2) implementation of clear and consistent expectations for direct measures across all non-academic units (Standard 7); and (3) review of the learning outcomes for general education and consideration of a reduction in the number of outcomes (Standard 12).
- January 4, 2016: To acknowledge receipt of the substantive change request. To include the online Master of Science in Computer Information Systems within the scope of the institution's accreditation. To remind the institution of the Commission's request of June 26, 2014 regarding the Periodic Review Report due June 1, 2017.
- February 22, 2016: To acknowledge receipt of documentation of approval from the State of New Jersey Higher Education and to include the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) within the scope of the institution's accreditation.

**Next Self-Study Evaluation: 2021 - 2022**

**Date Printed: November 17, 2017**

## **DEFINITIONS**

**Branch Campus** - A location of an institution that is geographically apart and independent of the main campus of the institution. The location is independent if the location: offers courses in educational programs leading to a degree, certificate, or other recognized educational credential; has its own faculty and administrative or supervisory organization; and has its own budgetary and hiring authority.

**Additional Location** - A location, other than a branch campus, that is geographically apart from the main campus and at which the institution offers at least 50 percent of an educational program. ANYA ("Approved but Not Yet Active") indicates that the location is included within the scope of accreditation but has not yet begun to offer courses. This designation is removed after the Commission receives notification that courses have begun at this



location.

**Other Instructional Sites** - A location, other than a branch campus or additional location, at which the institution offers one or more courses for credit.

**Distance Education Programs** - Fully Approved, Approved (one program approved) or Not Approved indicates whether or not the institution has been approved to offer diploma/certificate/degree programs via distance education (programs for which students could meet 50% or more of the requirements of the program by taking distance education courses). Per the Commission's Substantive Change policy, Commission approval of the first two Distance Education programs is required to be "Fully Approved." If only one program is approved by the Commission, the specific name of the program will be listed in parentheses after "Approved."

Commission actions are explained in the policy *Accreditation Actions*.