

May 2, 2017

VIA EMAIL & FEDERAL EXPRESS (niki@josephnursing.org)

Ms. Niki Joseph Saint Joseph's School of Nursing 816 West Lancaster Blvd Lancaster, CA 93534

> *Re: Reaccreditation Denied – Final Action ACCET ID #1394*

Dear Ms. Joseph:

This letter is written to advise you that the denial of reaccreditation by the Accrediting Commission of the Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training (ACCET) of Saint Joseph's School of Nursing was affirmed by the ACCET appeals panel at the March 24, 2017 hearing. The Accrediting Commission denied reaccreditation to Saint Joseph's School of Nursing in its letter, dated December 22, 2016, citing fifteen (15) findings of non-compliance, along with specifying an opportunity to appeal the decision. The institution submitted its request to appeal and subsequently provided its appeals brief and exhibits on March 3, 2017. Upon review of the institution's brief, exhibits, and hearing testimony, the panel affirmed the Commission's findings, as referenced in the enclosed decision of the appeals panel. The appeals panel found that the institution failed to provide documented evidence to demonstrate that the institution was in compliance with fourteen (14) ACCET Standards for Accreditation, although the institution demonstrated in the appeals brief and during the hearing compliance with Standard II-F <u>Professional Relationships</u>. Therefore, the decision to deny reaccreditation to the institution is a final action. It is noted for the record that the Commission acknowledged the appeals panel's decision to deny reaccreditation to Saint Joseph's School of Nursing after its consideration of the written record, including the appeals brief and supplementary exhibits provided by the institution during the appeals hearing.

At the recommendation of the Appeals Panel, ACCET conducted an internal investigation of the institution's claim that it did not receive a fair site inspection during the reaccreditation visit. Upon review of the evidence, the Commission was satisfied that there was no basis to substantiate the allegation of conflict of interest made by the institution.

As a closing note, the institution has the opportunity to provide a narrative to the Commission's action within 15 days of receipt of this letter. ACCET reserves the right to redact any inappropriate or inflammatory comments prior to posting the response on the website. It remains our hope that the accreditation process has served to focus the institution's resources and commitment towards strengthening its operations.

Sincerely,

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William V. Larkin, Ed.D. Executive Director WVL/jhh

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Enclosure: Decision of the appeals panel

 Mr. Herman Bounds, Chief, Accreditation Division, US ED (aslrecordsmanager@ed.gov) Mr. Ron Bennett, Director, School Eligibility Service Group, US ED (ron.bennett@ed.gov) Ms. Martina Fernandez-Rosario, ACD - San Francisco/Seattle, US ED (martina.fernandez rosario@ed.gov) Ms. Joanne Wenzel, Bureau Chief, CA Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education, (joanne\_wenzel@dca.ca.gov) Ms. Leeza Rifredi, CA Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education, (leeza.rifredi@dca.ca.gov)