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January 10, 2025

Dr. Joseph Shepard
President
Western New Mexico University
P. O. Box 680 1000 West College Avenue
Silver City, New Mexico 88062

Dear President Shepard:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning Western New Mexico University by the Institutional Actions Council of the Higher Learning Commission at its meeting on January 7, 2025. The date of this action constitutes the effective date of the institution's new status with HLC.

Action. IAC concurred with the evaluation findings and voted to affirm the institution's eligibility to select the Open or Standard Pathway for reaffirmation of accreditation.

In taking this action, the IAC considered materials from the most recent evaluation and the institutional response (if applicable) to the evaluation findings.

Attached to this letter is information on selecting and declaring a pathway within the timeline provided. The materials include links to information on the Open and Standard Pathways.

HLC does not make public an institution's Pathway determination or selection. Institutions' Pathway designations will not appear on the *Institutional Status and Requirements Report*.

If you have any questions about the institution's transition to a pathway, please contact Steph Brzuzy, the institution's staff liaison. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Gellman-Danley".

Barbara Gellman-Danley
President

Enclosures:

Pathway Transition Information – Open Eligible
Declaration Form