

Richard S. Lapidus, Ph.D.

PRESIDENT

January 10, 2017

Dr. Barbara E. Brittingham
President of the Commission
Commission on Institutions of Higher Education
New England Association of Schools and Colleges
3 Burlington Woods, Suite 100
Burlington, MA 01803-4514

Dear Dr. Brittingham:

It is my pleasure to submit the Interim Five-Year Report for Fitchburg State University to the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education. We have used this opportunity to reflect as a community and involved constituents from across campus in the process of writing this report.

As part of the process of reviewing the standards, we examined the projections made in our 2012 comprehensive report and provided an update on those projections. We are pleased to report that almost all projections have been achieved at the time of this submittal. We have also included our progress in addressing the two areas of emphasis identified by the CIHE in 2012 and are pleased to report our positive progress in both areas:

Area 1: Developing and Implementing a Process to Assess the Effectiveness of the Board of Trustees
Area 2: Implementing and Assessing the Strategic Plan and Assuring the Effective Integration of Strategic Planning, Operational Planning, and Budgeting

The comprehensive, reflective, and transparent approach taken during the report construction allowed us to more fully appreciate the work that has been done over the past five years. It has also assisted us to identify areas for continued focus, positioning us well to be prepared for our next full accreditation visit in 2022.

Please feel free to contact me if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,



Richard S. Lapidus
President