CHE **MIDDLE STATES COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION**
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STATEMENT OF ACCREDITATION STATUS

UPR - PONCE
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System: University of Puerto Rico Central Administration

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G.P.O. Box 4984-G
San Juan, PR 00936
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INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

Enrollment (Headcount):	3543 Undergraduate
Control:	Public
Affiliation:	Government-State Systems- University of Puerto Rico
2015 Carnegie Classification:	Baccalaureate Colleges - Diverse Fields
Approved Degree Levels:	Associate's, Bachelor's;
Distance Education Programs:	Not Approved

Accreditors Recognized by U.S. Secretary of Education: American Physical Therapy Association, Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education ; Council for the Accreditation of Education Preparation (CAEP)

Other Accreditors: Accreditation Board of Engineering and Technology (ABET); International Association of Counseling Service (IACS); Association of Collegiate Business Schools Programs (ACBSP); Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL); Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI)

Instructional Locations

Branch Campuses: None

Additional Locations: None

Other Instructional Sites: None

ACCREDITATION INFORMATION

Status: Member since 1970

Last Reaffirmed: November 17, 2016

Most Recent Commission Action:

November 17, 2016:	To reaffirm accreditation and to commend the institution for the quality of the self study report. To request a progress report, due April 1, 2018, documenting further development and implementation of a financial planning and budgeting process aligned with the institution's mission and goals, and a plan that provides for an annual budget and multi-year budget projections (Standard 3). The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2024-2025.

Brief History Since Last Comprehensive Evaluation:

June 23, 2011:	To accept the monitoring report, to note that a small team visit took place, to remove probation, and reaffirm accreditation. To request a monitoring report due by March 1, 2012 documenting further progress in (1) strengthening institutional resources and developing alternative forms of income, including institutional pro-forma budgets that demonstrate the institution's ability to generate a balanced budget for fiscal years 2012 through 2014, including the personnel, compensation, and other assumptions on which these budgets are based (Standard 3); (2) steps taken to ensure timely production of audited financial statements for FY 2011 and subsequent years (Standard 3); and (3) further steps taken to improve communication and shared governance, especially in documenting how campus input is solicited and considered in decision making at the System level; (4) evidence of further implementation of the UPR Action Plan, including evidence that the action plan is being assessed and data is used for improvements; (5) evidence that steps have been taken to assure continuity and stability of institutional leadership, particularly in times of governmental transitions; (6) evidence that communication between the Central Administration and the institution, is clear, timely, accurate, and made available to all constituents; and (7) evidence of further progress in implementing a procedure for the periodic objective assessment of the Board of Trustees (Standard 4). The next evaluation visit is now scheduled for 2015-2016.
June 28, 2012:	To accept the monitoring report. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2015-2016.
June 13, 2013:	To request, in accordance with the Commission's policy on Public Communication in the Accrediting Process, a supplemental information report, due July 10, 2013, that addresses the impact on institutional

	leadership of the recent changes in governance and administration, and actions planned or taken by the University to ensure ongoing compliance with Standards 4, 5 and 6. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2015-2016.
June 25, 2013:	To note that an extension has been granted for the submission of a supplemental information report that addresses the impact on institutional leadership of the recent changes in governance and administration, and actions planned or taken by the University to ensure ongoing compliance with Standards 4, 5 and 6. The supplemental information report is now due August 1, 2013. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2015-2016.
November 21, 2013:	To accept the supplemental information report. To request a monitoring report, due April 1, 2014, documenting evidence of an independent audit for FY2013, with evidence of follow-up on any concerns cited in the audit's accompanying management letter for both FY2012 and FY2013 (Standard 3). To remind the institution of its obligation to ensure timely production of audited financial statements. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2015-2016.
June 26, 2014:	To accept the monitoring report. To remind the institution of its obligation to ensure timely production of audited financial statements. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2015-2016.

Next Self-Study Evaluation: 2024 - 2025

Date Printed: December 9, 2016

DEFINITIONS

Branch Campus - A branch campus is a domestic or international location of an institution that is geographically apart, independent of the primary/main campus. The branch campus is considered independent of the main campus if it is permanent in nature; 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. (34 CFR §600.2)

Additional Location - An additional location is a domestic or international location, other than a branch campus, that is geographically apart from the primary/main campus and at which the institution offers at least 50 percent of the requirements of an educational program. (34 CFR §602.22) **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. **ANYC** ("Approved but Not Yet Closed") indicates that the institution has requested that the location be officially closed through the substantive change process. The location is currently included within the scope of accreditation but the institution will be stopping all operations at this location in the near future. The institution should inform the Commission (via email at sc@msche.org) of the date that operations cease. This designation is removed after the Commission receives notification that courses have stopped at this location and the location is no longer listed on the SAS.

Other Instructional Sites - MSCHE defines an other instructional site as any off-campus site, other than those meeting the definition of a branch campus or an additional location, at which the institution offers one or more courses for credit. Sites designated as an other instructional site do not require substantive change approval.

However, substantive change approval is required to reclassify an other instructional site to or from a branch campus or additional location.

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*.