



# 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 15, 2012

RECEIVED

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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
KEAN UNIVERSITY

Dr. Dawood Farahi  
President  
Kean University  
1000 Morris Avenue  
Box 411  
Union, NJ 07083-7131

Dear Dr. Farahi:

At its session on November 15, 2012, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education acted:

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.

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the Statement of Accreditation Status for your institution. The Statement of Accreditation Status (SAS) provides important basic information about the institution and its affiliation with the Commission, and it is made available to the

public in the Directory of Members and Candidates on the Commission's website at [www.msche.org](http://www.msche.org). Accreditation applies to the institution as detailed in the SAS; institutional information is derived from data provided by the institution through annual reporting and from Commission actions. If any of the institutional information is incorrect, please contact the Commission as soon as possible.

Please check to ensure that published references to your institution's accredited status (catalog, other publications, web page) include the full name, address, and telephone number of the accrediting agency. Further guidance is provided in the Commission's policy statement *Advertising, Student Recruitment, and Representation of Accredited Status*. If the action for your institution includes preparation of a progress report, monitoring report or supplemental report, please see our policy statement on *Follow-up Reports and Visits*. Both policies can be obtained from our website.

Please be assured of the continuing interest of the 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. Debra G. Klinman, Vice President.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary L. Wirt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Gary L. Wirt, Ed.D.  
Vice 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 07083-7131  
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):** 13462 Undergraduate; 2725 Graduate  
**Control:** Public  
**Affiliation:** State  
**Carnegie Classification:** Master's - Larger Programs  
**Degrees Offered:** Bachelor's, Master's, Post-Master's Certificate, Doctor's - Research/Scholarship;  
**Distance Education Programs:** No

**Accreditors Approved by U.S. Secretary of Education:** American Occupational Therapy Association, Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education; American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology; National Association of Schools of Art and Design, Commission on Accreditation; National Association of Schools of Music, Commission on Accreditation; National Association of Schools of Theatre, Commission on Accreditation; National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education; National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission

**Other Accreditors:** Assoc for Childhood Edu Intern'l(ACEI);American Chemical Society(ACS);Amer Coun on the Teaching of Foreign Langs(ACTFL);Comm on Accred of Athletic Training Edu(CAATE);Coun for Accred of Counseling and Related Educ Prog(CACREP); Comm on Accred for Health Info(CAHIIM); Coun for Exceptl Children(CEC);Coun for Interior Design Accred(CIDA);Coun on Social Work Edu(CSWE);Edu Leadshp Constituent Coun(ELCC);European Found of Mgmt Dev Prog Accred System(EPAS);Intern'l Reading Assoc(IRA);Natl Assoc for the Educ of Young Children(NAEYC);Natl Assoc of State Dir of Teacher Educ & Cert(NASDTEC); Natl Assoc of School Psychologists(NASP); Natl Assoc of Schools of Pub Affairs and Admin (NASPAA); Natl Assoc for Sport & Phys Educ(NASPE); Natl Coun for the Social

Studies(NCSS);Natl Coun of Teachers of English(NCTE); Natl Coun of Teachers of Math.(NCTM); NJ Comm on Higher Edu(NJCHE);NJ State Dept of Edu(NJDOE);NJ Prof Coun Exam Comte(NJPCEC);NJ State Brd of Nursing(NJSBN);Natl Science Teachers Assoc(NSTA)

### **Instructional Locations**

**Branch Campuses:** None

**Additional Locations:** Kean Ocean, Toms River, NJ.

**Other Instructional Sites:** Administration Building, 16 School Rd., Rockaway Township, NJ; Administration Office, 715 Park Ave, East Orange, NJ; Bergen Community College, 400 Paramus Road, Paramus, NJ; Bergen County Tech. High School, 504 Rt. 46, West Teterboro, NJ; Cerebral Palsy Center/Lakeview School, 10 Oak Dr., Edison, NJ; East Brunswick High School, 380 Cranbury Rd., East Brunswick, NJ; Hillsborough Township High School, 465 Raider Blvd., Hillsborough, NJ; JFK Hospital, 2050 Oak Tree Rd., Edison, NJ; Middlesex County College, 2600 Woodbridge Avenue, Edison, NJ; Monmouth Reg. High School, 1 Norman J. Field Way, Tinton Falls, NJ; Nutley High School, 300 Franklin Ave., Nutley, NJ; Old Bridge Township High School, 4209 Rt. 516, Matawan, NJ; Parsippany High School, 309 Baldwin Road, Parsippany, NJ; Pasacack Valley Regional High School, 46 Akers Avenue, Montvale, NJ; Rahway High School, 1012 Madison Avenue, Rahway, NJ; Raritan Valley Community College, 118 Lamington Road, Branchburg, NJ; West Morris Central High School, 259 Bartley Rd., Chester, NJ; Westfield High School, 550 Dorian Road, Westfield, NJ.

### **ACCREDITATION INFORMATION**

**Status:** Member since 1960

**Last Reaffirmed:** November 16, 2006

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

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.

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

- November 16, 2006: To accept the Periodic Review Report and to reaffirm accreditation. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2010-2011.
- February 21, 2007: To acknowledge receipt of the substantive change request submitted by the institution and to include the Doctor of Education in Urban Leadership and the Doctor of Psychology in Professional Psychology: School Psychology provisionally within the scope of the institution's accreditation, pending documentation of approval by the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education. To remind the institution of a pending visit to the additional location at Ocean County College in Toms River, NJ. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2010-2011.
- November 15, 2007: To thank the institution for receiving the Commission's representative and to continue to include the additional location at Ocean County College, 1 College Drive, Toms River, New Jersey, provisionally within the scope of the institution's accreditation, pending documentation of approval by the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education.
- November 15, 2007: To acknowledge notification of approval from the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education and to affirm inclusion of the Doctor of Psychology in Professional Psychology: School Psychology within the scope of the institution's accreditation. To note that the Doctor of Education in Urban Leadership remains provisionally included within the scope of the institution's accreditation pending documentation of approval by the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2010-2011.
- March 13, 2008: To note that documentation has not been received of approval by the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education of the additional location at Ocean County College, 1 College Drive, Toms River, New Jersey, and the Doctor of Education in Urban Leadership, and the location and program consequently remain provisionally included within the scope of the institution's accreditation. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2010-2011.
- June 26, 2008: To acknowledge notification of approval from the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education and to affirm inclusion of the Doctor of Education in Urban Leadership within the scope of the institution's

accreditation. To further acknowledge notification of approval by the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education of the additional location at Ocean County College, 1 College Drive, Toms River, New Jersey. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2010-2011.

June 23, 2011:

To warn the institution that its accreditation may be in jeopardy because of insufficient evidence that the institution is currently in compliance with Standard 7 (Institutional Assessment) and Standard 14 (Assessment of Student Learning). To note that the institution remains accredited while on warning. To request a monitoring report, due March 1, 2012, documenting that the institution has achieved and can sustain compliance with Standards 7 and 14, including but not limited to the development and implementation of (1) steps taken to promote an institution-wide culture of assessment and evidence; (2) an organized and sustainable assessment process, including direct measures, to evaluate and improve institutional effectiveness with evidence that assessment information is used to gain efficiencies in programs, services, and processes; and (3) an organized and sustainable process to assess the achievement of student learning goals at the course and program levels, with evidence that assessment information is used to improve teaching and learning (Standards 7 and 14). To direct a prompt liaison guidance visit to discuss the Commission's expectations. A small team visit will follow submission of the monitoring report. The due date for the next Periodic Review Report will be established when accreditation is reaffirmed.

November 17, 2011:

To note the visit by the Commission's representative. To remind the institution that its accreditation may be in jeopardy because of insufficient evidence that the institution is currently in compliance with Standard 7 (Institutional Assessment) and Standard 14 (Assessment of Student Learning). To note that the institution remains accredited while on warning. To remind the institution of the monitoring report, due March 1, 2012, documenting that the institution has achieved and can sustain compliance with Standards 7 and 14, including but not limited to the development and implementation of (1) steps taken to promote an institution-wide culture of assessment and evidence; (2) an organized and sustainable assessment process, including direct measures, to evaluate and improve institutional effectiveness with evidence that assessment information is used to gain efficiencies in programs, services, and processes; and (3) an organized and sustainable process to assess the achievement of student learning goals at the course and program levels, with evidence that assessment information is used to improve teaching and learning (Standards 7 and 14). A small team visit will follow submission of the monitoring report. The due date for the next Periodic Review Report will be established when accreditation is reaffirmed.

March 1, 2012:

To remind the institution that it has been warned that its accreditation

may be in jeopardy because of insufficient evidence that the institution is currently in compliance with Standard 7 (Institutional Assessment) and Standard 14 (Assessment of Student Learning). To note that the institution remains accredited while on warning. To note that the monitoring report, due March 1, 2012, has been submitted and a small team visit has been scheduled. The report and visit will be acted upon at the June Commission meeting. To request a monitoring report, due September 1, 2012, providing evidence of (1) the equitable and consistent treatment of constituencies in the application of academic requirements and policies, administrative review, and institutional governance and management; (2) an institutional climate that fosters respect among students, faculty, staff, and administration; and (3) the periodic assessment of integrity evidenced in institutional policies, processes, practices, and the manner in which these are implemented (Standard 6). A small team visit will follow submission of the September 1, 2012 monitoring report. To remind the institution of its obligation to inform the Commission about any and all significant developments related to compliance with MSCHE requirements of affiliation and standards of accreditation. The due date for the next Periodic Review Report will be established when accreditation is reaffirmed.

March 22, 2012:

To remind the institution that it is obligated to release immediately any and all information requested by the Commission, including the full text of the Special Counsel's investigation, which should be received by the Commission no later than April 5, 2012.

June 28, 2012:

To accept the monitoring report and to note the visit by the Commission's representatives. To place the institution on probation because of a lack of evidence that it is currently in compliance with Standard 6 (Integrity), Standard 7 (Institutional Assessment), Standard 12 (General Education), and Standard 14 (Assessment of Student Learning). To note that the institution remains accredited while on probation. To request a monitoring report, due September 1, 2012, providing documented evidence that the institution has achieved and can sustain compliance with Standard 6 (Integrity), Standard 7 (Institutional Assessment), Standard 12 (General Education), and Standard 14 (Assessment of Student Learning). To request that the monitoring report include, but not be limited to, evidence of the development and implementation of (1) procedures to ensure that factual information about the institution, including Middle States Commission on Higher Education team reports and Commission actions, are accurately reported and are made available to the institution's community (Standard 6); (2) an organized and sustainable institutional assessment process that (a) includes direct measures that clearly and purposefully relate to the goals they are assessing, (b) is used to evaluate, improve, and gain efficiencies in all programs, services, and processes, and (c) informs decision-making about institutional planning and resource allocation (Standard 7);

(3) a coherent program of general education that (a) incorporates the study of values, ethics, and diverse perspectives in a manner consistent with institutional mission, (b) specifies 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, and (c) provides assessment results that are utilized for curricular improvement (Standard 12); and (4) an organized, systematic, and sustainable process to assess the achievement of student learning goals in all programs that foster student learning and development, and that (a) includes direct measures that are clearly related to the goals they are assessing, (b) provides sufficient, convincing evidence that students are achieving key learning outcomes, (c) uses results to improve teaching and learning, and (d) uses student learning assessment results as part of institutional assessment (Standard 14). To remind the institution that the monitoring report, due September 1, 2012, should also provide evidence of (5) the equitable and consistent treatment of constituencies in the application of academic requirements and policies, administrative review, and institutional governance and management; (6) an institutional climate that fosters respect among students, faculty, staff, and administration; and (7) the periodic assessment of integrity evidenced in institutional policies, processes, practices, and the manner in which these are implemented (Standard 6). A small team visit will follow submission of the monitoring report. To remind the institution of its obligation to inform the Commission about any and all significant developments related to compliance with MSCHE requirements of affiliation and standards of accreditation. The due date for the next Periodic Review Report will be established when accreditation is reaffirmed.

July 19, 2012:

To request that the institution submit the full text of the April 2012 NCAA Infractions Report to the Commission by August 2, 2012. To remind the institution of its obligation to inform the Commission about any and all significant developments related to compliance with MSCHE requirements of affiliation and standards of accreditation. To further remind the institution that it has been placed on probation because of a lack of evidence that it is currently in compliance with Standard 6 (Integrity), Standard 7 (Institutional Assessment), Standard 12 (General Education), and Standard 14 (Assessment of Student Learning). To note that the institution remains accredited while on probation. To remind the institution that the monitoring report, due September 1, 2012, should provide documented evidence that the institution has achieved and can sustain compliance with Standard 6 (Integrity), Standard 7 (Institutional Assessment), Standard 12 (General Education), and Standard 14 (Assessment of Student Learning). The monitoring report is to include, but not be limited to, evidence of the development and implementation of (1) procedures to ensure that factual information about the institution, including Middle States Commission on Higher Education team reports



and Commission actions, are accurately reported and are made available to the institution's community (Standard 6); (2) an organized and sustainable institutional assessment process that (a) includes direct measures that clearly and purposefully relate to the goals they are assessing, (b) is used to evaluate, improve, and gain efficiencies in all programs, services, and processes, and (c) informs decision-making about institutional planning and resource allocation (Standard 7); (3) a coherent program of general education that (a) incorporates the study of values, ethics, and diverse perspectives in a manner consistent with institutional mission, (b) specifies 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, and (c) provides assessment results that are utilized for curricular improvement (Standard 12); and (4) an organized, systematic, and sustainable process to assess the achievement of student learning goals in all programs that foster student learning and development, and that (a) includes direct measures that are clearly related to the goals they are assessing, (b) provides sufficient, convincing evidence that students are achieving key learning outcomes, (c) uses results to improve teaching and learning, and (d) uses student learning assessment results as part of institutional assessment (Standard 14). To remind the institution that the monitoring report, due September 1, 2012, should also provide evidence of (5) the equitable and consistent treatment of constituencies in the application of academic requirements and policies, administrative review, and institutional governance and management; (6) an institutional climate that fosters respect among students, faculty, staff, and administration; and (7) the periodic assessment of integrity evidenced in institutional policies, processes, practices, and the manner in which these are implemented (Standard 6). A small team visit will follow submission of the monitoring report. The due date for the next Periodic Review Report will be established when accreditation is reaffirmed.

July 31, 2012:

To acknowledge receipt on April 19, 2012 of the NCAA Infractions Report to the Commission and to rescind the Commission's July 19, 2012 request for submission of such report. The remaining actions of the Commission on July 19, 2012 continue in full force and effect.

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

**Next Periodic Review Report:** 2017

**Date Printed:** November 15, 2012

## **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** - Yes or No indicates whether or not the institution has been approved to offer one or more degree or certificate/diploma programs for which students could meet 50% or more of their requirements by taking distance education courses.

## EXPLANATION OF COMMISSION ACTIONS

An institution's accreditation continues unless it is explicitly suspended or removed. In addition to reviewing the institution's accreditation status at least every 5 years, actions are taken for substantive changes (such as a new degree or geographic site, or a change of ownership) or when other events occur that require review for continued compliance. Any type of report or visit required by the Commission is reviewed and voted on by the Commission after it is completed.

In increasing order of seriousness, a report by an institution to the Commission may be accepted, acknowledged, or rejected.

### Levels of Actions:

Grant or Re-Affirm Accreditation without follow-up

Defer a decision on initial accreditation: The institution shows promise but the evaluation team has identified issues of concern and recommends that the institution be given a specified time period to address those concerns.

Postpone a decision on (reaffirmation of) accreditation: The Commission has determined that there is insufficient information to substantiate institutional compliance with one or more standards.

Continue accreditation: A delay of up to one year may be granted to ensure a current and accurate representation of the institution or in the event of circumstances beyond the institution's control (natural disaster, U.S. State Department travel warnings, etc.)

Recommendations to be addressed in the next Periodic Review Report: Suggestions for improvement are given, but no follow-up is needed for compliance.

Supplemental Information Report: This is required when a decision is postponed and are intended only to allow the institution to provide further information, not to give the institution time to formulate plans or initiate remedial action.

Progress report: The Commission needs assurance that the institution is carrying out activities that were planned or were being implemented at the time of a report or on-site visit.

**Monitoring report:** There is a potential for the institution to become non-compliant with MSCHE standards; issues are more complex or more numerous; or issues require a substantive, detailed report. A visit may or may not be required.

**Warning:** The Commission acts to Warn an institution that its accreditation may be in jeopardy when the institution is not in compliance with one or more Commission standards and a follow-up report, called a monitoring report, is required to demonstrate that the institution has made appropriate improvements to bring itself into compliance. Warning indicates that the Commission believes that, although the institution is out of compliance, the institution has the capacity to make appropriate improvements within a reasonable period of time and the institution has the capacity to sustain itself in the long term.

**Probation:** The Commission places an institution on Probation when, in the Commission's judgment, the institution is not in compliance with one or more Commission standards and that the non-compliance is sufficiently serious, extensive, or acute that it raises concern about one or more of the following:

1. the adequacy of the education provided by the institution;
2. the institution's capacity to make appropriate improvements in a timely fashion; or
3. the institution's capacity to sustain itself in the long term.

Probation is often, but need not always be, preceded by an action of Warning or Postponement. If the Commission had previously postponed a decision or placed the institution on Warning, the Commission may place the institution on Probation if it determines that the institution has failed to address satisfactorily the Commission's concerns in the prior action of postponement or warning regarding compliance with Commission standards. This action is accompanied by a request for a monitoring report, and a special visit follows. Probation may, but need not always, precede an action of Show Cause.

**Suspend accreditation:** Accreditation has been Continued for one year and an appropriate evaluation is not possible. This is a procedural action that would result in Removal of Accreditation if accreditation cannot be reaffirmed within the period of suspension.

**Show cause why the institution's accreditation should not be removed:** The institution is required to present its case for accreditation by means of a substantive report and/or an on-site evaluation. A "Public Disclosure Statement" is issued by the Commission.

**Remove accreditation.** If the institution appeals this action, its accreditation remains in effect until the appeal is completed.

Other actions are described in the Commission policy, "Range of Commission Actions on Accreditation."