CHE MSA **Middle States Commission on Higher Education**
3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-2680. Tel: 267-284-5000. Fax: 215-662-5501
www.msche.org

March 2, 2012

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

Dear Dr. Farahi:

At its session on March 1, 2012, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education acted:

> 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.

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*. 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.

RECEIVED
MAR 5 2012
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
KEAN UNIVERSITY

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,

Gary L. Wirt, Ph.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

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

Chief Executive Officer: Dr. Dawood Farahi, President

INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

Enrollment (Headcount):	13052 Undergraduate; 2887 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: Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE); Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP); Commission on Accreditation for Health Information (CAHIIM); Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA); Council on Social Work Education (CSWE); National Association of School Psychologists (NASP); National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA)

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 County Tech. High School, 504 Rt.

46, West Teterboro, NJ; Berkeley Heights Admin. Complex, 345 Plainfield Ave., Berkeley Heights, NJ; Cerebal Palsy Center/Lakeview School, 10 Oak Dr., Edison, NJ; East Brunswick High School, 380 Cranbury Rd., East Brunswick, NJ; Franklin Twp. High School, 500 Elizabeth Ave., Somerset, NJ; Ironbound Early Head Start, 380 East Kinney St., Newark, NJ; JFK Hospital, 2050 Oak Tree Rd., Edison, NJ; Montville High School, 100 Horseneck Road, Montville, NJ; Nutley High School, 300 Franklin Ave., Nutley, NJ; Paramus Community School, 145 Spring St., Parmus, NJ; Roosevelt School, 301 Clark St., Westfield, NJ; South Plainfield High School, 417 Avon Ave., South Plainfield, NJ; West Morris Central High School, 259 Bartley Rd., Chester, NJ; West New York Memorial High School, 5501 Park Ave., West New York, NJ.

ACCREDITATION INFORMATION

Status: Member since 1960

Last Reaffirmed: November 16, 2006

Most Recent Commission Action:

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.

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.

Next Self-Study Evaluation: n/a

Next Periodic Review Report: n/a

Date Printed: March 2, 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."

MIDDLE STATES COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION
3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-2680. Tel: 267-284-5000. Fax: 215-662-5501
www.msche.org

Public Disclosure Statement

Kean University

March 2, 2012

By the Middle States Commission on Higher Education

This statement has been developed for use in responding to public inquiries, consistent with the Commission's policies on Public Communication in the Accrediting Process, Range of Commission Actions on Accreditation, and Standardized Language for Commission Actions on Accreditation. It should be read in conjunction with the *Statement of Accreditation Status* for Kean University, a copy of which is attached. The policies listed above explain what information the Commission makes public regarding its member institutions and what information remains confidential, describe the various accreditation actions the Commission can take, and define the terms used in the Commission's actions.

Kean University, located in Union, New Jersey is a public institution. It has been accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education since 1960. Kean University offers programs leading to Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctor's-Research/Scholarship degrees as well as Post-Master's certificates. A full listing of the institution's additional locations is noted in the *Statement of Accreditation Status*. A summary of the most recent Commission actions relative to the institution's accreditation follows.

Current Accreditation Status

On March 1, 2012, the Commission acted to remind Kean University that its accreditation may be in jeopardy because of insufficient evidence that the institution is currently in compliance with Standards 7 (Institutional Assessment) and 14 (Assessment of Student Learning). The Commission acted 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 2012 Commission meeting. In addition, the Commission requested 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). The full text of the Commission's action is provided below. The Commission's accreditation standards are available online at http://www.msche.org/publications/CHX-2011-WEB.pdf.

Kean University remains accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education while on Warning.

The Commission places an institution on Warning when, in the Commission's judgment, the institution is not in compliance with one or more Commission accreditation standards. When the Commission warns an institution, it believes that, although the institution is out of compliance, the institution has the capacity both to make appropriate improvements within a reasonable period and to sustain itself in the long term. A follow-up report, called a monitoring report, is required to demonstrate that the institution has made appropriate improvements to bring itself into compliance. A small team visit also is conducted to verify institutional status and progress.

Summary of Recent Commission Actions

At least every ten years, all accredited institutions engage in an 18-24 month period of self-study intended to demonstrate institutional compliance with accreditation standards and to promote institutional improvement. Kean University completed its self-study process and hosted an evaluation team visit during 2010-11. Following the on-site visit, the evaluation team submitted its report to Kean University and the institution prepared its institutional response. The institutional response is an opportunity for the institution to provide a thoughtful written response to the team report including disagreements with and/or interpretations of evaluation team findings. These prepared materials were considered by the Committee on Evaluation Reports and by the Commission at their June 2011 meetings.

On June 23, 2011, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education acted as follows:

> To warn the institution that its accreditation may be in jeopardy because of insufficient evidence that the institution is currently in compliance with Standards 7 (Institutional Assessment) and 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.

On March 1, 2012, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education acted as follows:

> 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 Standards 7 (Institutional Assessment) and 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.

Current Status and Expected Activities

Kean University remains accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education while on Warning.

Following submission of a monitoring report on September 1, 2012, the Commission will conduct a small team visit to assess the institution's compliance with the Commission's standards. Following the on-site visit, a report by the visiting team will be completed. The monitoring report, the small team report and the institutional response to the small team report will be considered by the Committee on Follow-Up Activities, and then by the Commission at its November 2012 meeting.

At its November 2012 session, the Commission will take further action, in accordance with the Commission's policy, *Range of Commission Actions on Accreditation* (available at http://www.msche.org/documents/P2.3-RangeofActions.doc). If, based on the monitoring report and small team report, the Commission determines that Kean University has made appropriate progress in addressing the cited concerns, the Commission may act to remove the Warning and reaffirm accreditation. If the Commission determines that progress sufficient to demonstrate compliance with its accreditation standards has not been made, the Commission may take further action as allowed under the *Range of Commission Actions on Accreditation*.

For More Information

The following resources provide additional information that may be helpful in understanding the

Commission's actions and Kean University's accreditation status:

Statement of Accreditation Status for Kean University (http://www.msche.org/institutions_directory.asp) provides factual information about Kean University and the full text of the Commission's recent actions regarding the institution.

Media Backgrounder (http://www.msche.org/documents/Media%20Backgrounder%202012.doc) answers questions about accreditation such as "What is accreditation?" and "What is the Middle States Commission on Higher Education?"

Informing the Public about Accreditation (www.chea.org/public_info/index.asp), published by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation, provides additional information on the nature and value of accreditation.