



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 18, 2016

Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson
President
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
110 Eighth Street
Troy, NY 12180-3590

Dear Dr. Jackson:

At its session on November 17, 2016, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education acted:

To reaffirm accreditation. To commend the institution for the quality of the self-study report. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2024-2025.

This action is an affirming action, as explained in the policy *Accreditation Actions*, which is available on the Commission's website.

Enclosed is a copy of the institution's Statement of Accreditation Status (SAS) for your review. If any of the factual information is incorrect, please contact the Commission as soon as possible.

In accordance with the policy *Advertising, Student Recruitment, and Representation of Accredited Status*, the accreditation status of the institution must be accurately represented. Please ensure that published references to your institution's candidate status or accredited status (catalog, other publications, web page) are accurate and include the full name, address, and telephone number of the accrediting agency, and the effective date (month and year) when status was granted. Candidate for Accreditation is a status with the Commission that indicates that an institution has achieved membership and is progressing toward, but is not assured of, accreditation.

Please be assured of the continuing interest of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education in the well-being of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. If any further clarification is needed regarding the SAS or other items in this letter, please feel free to contact Dr. Robert A. Schneider, Senior Vice President for Accreditation Relations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'George A. Pruitt', written over a white background.

George A. Pruitt, Ph.D.
Chair



MIDDLE STATES COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION
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STATEMENT OF ACCREDITATION STATUS

RENSSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

110 Eighth Street

Troy, NY 12180-3590

Phone: (518) 276-6000; Fax: (518) 276-8702

www.rpi.edu

Chief Executive Officer: Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson, President

INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

Enrollment (Headcount): 5781 Undergraduate ; 1238 Graduate

Control: Private (Non-Profit)

Affiliation: None

2015 Carnegie Classification: Doctoral Universities - Higher Research Activity

Approved Degree Levels: Bachelor's, Master's, Doctor's - Research/Scholarship;

Distance Education Programs: Fully Approved

Accreditors Recognized by U.S. Secretary of Education: n/a

Other Accreditors: Undergraduate degree programs in chemistry are certified by the American Chemical Society; professional programs in architecture are accredited by the National Architecture Accrediting Board; Lally School of Management and Technology is an accredited member of the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business; Engineering undergraduate degree programs are accredited by the Accreditation Commission of the Board for Engineering and Technology. The exception is engineering science, which is not intended as preparation for professional engineering practice.

Instructional Locations

Branch Campuses: Rensselaer at Hartford, Hartford, CT.

Additional Locations: Pratt and Whitney Aircraft North Berwick Engineering Center, North Berwick, ME.

Other Instructional Sites: Center for Architecture Science and Ecology, New York, NY; Darrin Fresh Water Institute, Bolton Landing, NY; Rensselaer at Groton Site, Groton, CT.

ACCREDITATION INFORMATION

Status: Member since 1927

Last Reaffirmed: November 17, 2016

Most Recent Commission Action:

November 17, 2016: To reaffirm accreditation. To commend the institution for the quality of the self-study report. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2024-2025.

Brief History Since Last Comprehensive Evaluation:

- November 17, 2011: To accept the Periodic Review Report and to reaffirm accreditation. To request a progress report, due April 1, 2013, documenting evidence of the implementation of the new faculty governance structure and of assessment of its effectiveness (Standard 4). The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2015-2016.
- June 27, 2013: To accept the progress report. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2015-2016.
- October 27, 2014: To acknowledge receipt of the substantive change request and to include the additional location at Pratt and Whitney Aircraft North Berwick Engineering Center, 113 Wells Street, North Berwick, ME 03609 within the scope of the institution's accreditation, pending a site visit within six months of the commencement of operations at the additional location. The Commission requires written notification within thirty days of the commencement of operations. In the event that operations at the additional location do not commence within one calendar year from the approval of this action, approval will lapse. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2015-2016.
- November 19, 2015: To note the visit by the Commission's representative and to affirm inclusion of the additional location at the Pratt and Whitney Aircraft North Berwick Engineering Center, 113 Wells Street, North Berwick, ME 03609 within the scope of the institution's accreditation. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2015-2016.

Next Self-Study Evaluation: 2024 - 2025

Date Printed: November 18, 2016

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 - 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*.