Dean Douglas Lowry  
College-Conservatory of Music  
University of Cincinnati  
Cincinnati, OH 45221-0003

Dear Dean Lowry:

The NASM Commission on Accreditation at its November meetings gave careful consideration to the application for renewal of Membership submitted by the University of Cincinnati.

The Commission voted to approve the application and continue the institution in good standing with the following degree listing:

- Bachelor of Arts in Music.
- Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre.
- Bachelor of Music in Composition.
- Bachelor of Music in Jazz Studies.
- Bachelor of Music in Music Education.
- Bachelor of Music in Music History.
- Bachelor of Music in Performance.
- Bachelor of Music in Theory.
- Artist Diploma in Instrumental Music Performance (Graduate).
- Artist Diploma in Opera Performance (Graduate).
- Artist Diploma in Piano or Harpsichord Performance (Graduate).
- Master of Arts in Arts Administration.
- Master of Music in Accompanying.
- Master of Music in Composition.
- Master of Music in Conducting.
- Master of Music in Music Education.
- Master of Music in Music History.
- Master of Music in Performance.
- Master of Music in Theory.
- Doctor of Musical Arts in Composition.
- Doctor of Musical Arts in Conducting.
- Doctor of Musical Arts in Literature and Performance.
- Doctor of Music Education.
- Doctor of Philosophy in Music.

Plan Approved:

*Artist Diploma in Voice Performance (Graduate).*
The next NASM evaluation for reaccreditation is scheduled for the 2010–2011 academic year.

The Commission requests a progress report addressing the following concerns:

1. The comprehensive planning process that is currently underway, including the stated intent to “re­visit the mission statement” and “to undertake a serious and committed planning campaign” (see Optional Response, pages 1 and 2). The progress report should indicate the status of this effort.

2. While certain resource issues (e.g., facilities) are clearly well established and secure, others, such as the history of reductions in the allocation of general funds (see Self-Study, page 13), and particularly the recent permanent reduction in the salary budget and one-time reduction of the operating budget (see NASM Visitors’ Report, page 3) are worrisome. The Commission hopes the Dean and the music unit will be able to achieve some stabilization of these conditions in the near future. The progress report should indicate the status of resource support for the College-Conservatory of Music.

3. The NASM visitors noted some discontent among students with the apparently extensive use of graduate teaching assistants in the delivery of instruction in theory (see NASM Visitors’ Report, pages 4-5 and 17). Although there appeared to be no overt curricular ramifications, the Commission encourages the institution to monitor this matter carefully, and to report the status of any progress that may occur.

4. The Commission notes the intent of the Dean and music unit to seek improvements in the quality of academic advising (see NASM Visitors’ Report, page 8; Optional Response, page 1). The progress report should indicate the status of this effort.

The progress report should be submitted by October 1 for consideration at the Commission meetings of November, 2002. A copy of the NASM Visitors’ Report is enclosed, along with a document outlining procedures for submitting the progress report.

The Commission notes and accepts the clarification of the status of the Artist Diploma in Chamber Music (see NASM Visitors’ Report, page 14; Optional Response, page 2). It is understood that Chamber Music study at the graduate level is now a track within graduate-level performance degrees.

The Commission voted to grant Plan Approval for the following program:

*Artist Diploma in Voice Performance (Graduate).*

When two transcripts are available for this program, the institution should submit an application for Final Approval for Listing. Appropriate procedures should be requested from the NASM National Office.

Please contact the NASM National Office staff if you need clarification, information, or assistance in responding to the issues raised by the Commission.
This action is taken upon review of the University of Cincinnati according to accreditation standards in effect in November of 2001. As a member of NASM, the institution is responsible for participating in all revisions and additions to the standards as well as maintaining its curricular programs in music current with NASM standards as these are developed.

The Commission commends the institution for the thoroughness of its Self-Study, and particularly upon its eloquent articulation of global issues to be considered.

Please accept our congratulations on behalf of the Association.

With best wishes and cordial regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Samuel Hope
Executive Director

cc: Joseph Steger, President
    University of Cincinnati
    David Tomatz, President, NASM
    Don Gibson, Chair
    Jon Piersol, Associate Chair
    NASM Commission on Accreditation
    William Hipp, NASM Visitor
    Robert Fitzpatrick, NASM Visitor
    Michael Yaffe, NASM Visitor
    Arthur R. Tollefson, NASM Visitor