



**YOUNGSTOWN  
STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

One University Plaza, Youngstown, Ohio 44555

Office of the President  
330.941.3101 | Fax 330.941.7169

June 26, 2022

Higher Learning Commission  
230 South LaSalle Street  
Suite 7-500  
Chicago, IL 60604

Dear Peer Review Team Members,

It is my pleasure to submit the Open Pathway Year 4 Assurance Review demonstrating that Youngstown State University continues to meet the Higher Learning Commission's Criteria for Accreditation. By creating this assurance filing, YSU provides continued evidence that it complies with the Criteria for Accreditation.

Although most of YSU's previous Assurance Argument and Evidence File from the 2018 comprehensive evaluation remains accurate and descriptive of YSU's ongoing commitment to maintaining compliance with the Criteria, the current Assurance Review represents more than a year of reflection upon and review of the narratives in each Core Component section.

I am particularly proud of YSU's progress and achievement with program review since the last reaffirmation of accreditation visit. As this Assurance Review documents, YSU has dedicated substantial time and effort to implementing its Academic Program Enhancement and Effectiveness Initiative (APEEI).

I am also quite proud of the campus engagement in generating this Assurance Review. Composed by teams of YSU faculty, staff, and administrators, the review aligns closely with YSU's Plan for Strategic Actions to Take Charge of Our Future. A draft of the review has been disseminated via the HLC Accreditation website (<https://ysu.edu/hlc-accreditation>) along with lists of evidence cited, a project timeline, and connections to "Living Our Mission."

Sincerely,

James P. Tressel  
President  
Youngstown State University