Executive Summary

Renewal of Institutional Licensure
Skyline University College (SUC)
Sharjah

6-9 November 2023

An External Review Team (ERT), appointed by the Commission for Academic Accreditation (CAA) of the Ministry of Education (MOE) of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), conducted an onsite review to evaluate the self-study for the Renewal of Institutional Licensure (RIL) (hereafter the *Self-Study*) submitted by Skyline University College (SUC) in Sharjah during the period 06-09 November 2023. The exit briefing was held on 11 November 2023.

Skyline University College was established in 1990, under the patronage of H. H. Sheikh Sultan Bin Mohammed Al Qassimi, the Ruler of Sharjah. SUC has a School of Business and a School of Computing. The School of Business (SOB) offers a broad-based Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) with several concentrations, as well as a more specialized BBA in Accounting, and a general Master of Business Administration (MBA). The School of Computing (SOC) offers undergraduate degrees in Computer Science and Information Technology. At the time of writing this report, SUC reported having 46 full-time faculty members, with 33 of them at the SOB. 10 of the 46 full-time faculty members are female, a very substantial increase, as there were only two full-time female faculty at the time of the last RIL. There are 12 part-time faculty, six of whom are female. Total number of undergraduate students enrolled at SUC is 946, with 611 full-time Emirati students; 24% of the UG students are female. Due to the temporary cessation of graduate admissions, there are 15 postgraduate students, 10 male and 5 female. Total number of female students at SUC is 235. The faculty to student ratio is 1 to 20.6.

After carefully considering the application for renewal of institutional licensure, examining supporting documentation, and interaction with senior university managers, faculty, and others, the ERT identified many strengths at SUC. These include:

Research: The substantial increase in research output.
- **Senior Management:** The dedication and commitment of the senior management team to the enhancement of the overall university.
- **Faculty, Students and Alumni:** The articulate, confident, and highly enthusiastic faculty, students, and alumni with whom we met.
- Graduate Employers & The very supportive and engaged employers and advisory board members with whom we met.

However, the External Review Team (ERT) has identified some weaknesses in the application, which can be outlined as follows:
- **Catalogs:** The undergraduate and graduate catalogs do not comply with the *Standards*.
- **Quality Assurance**: Some of the evaluations, critical analyses, and assessments required by the PMRIL haven't been provided.
- **Research Budget:** SUC's research budget does not meet the minimum required by the

Standards as the presented budget as it includes a portion of the salary of faculty members whose teaching load is the maximum permitted.

- **Infrastructure:** People of determination will have difficulty accessing and navigating the campus safely.

The identified weaknesses have the potential to significantly impact the quality of education provided by SUC. It is imperative for the institution to address these weaknesses to ensure compliance with *Standards:2019* and achieve renewal of licensure.

The ERT offers its recommendations in a collaborative manner, with the aim of assisting SUC in meeting the required standards and attaining renewal of institutional licensure.