

## Society for Range Management

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November 20, 2012

Dr. Eladio Cornejo Oviedo, Rector Universidad Autónoma Agraria Antonio Narro Calzada Antonio Narro 1923 Saltillo, Coah., México CP 25315

Dear Dr. Cornejo Oviedo

As President of the Society for Range Management (SRM), I would like to express congratulations and welcome the Rangeland Management and Conservation program at the Universidad Autonoma Agraria Antonio Narro (UAAAN) as a fully accredited academic program in rangeland ecology and management. The Rangeland Management and Conservation program at UAAAN was reviewed by a team that visited your campus in the spring of 2012, examined by the SRM Program Accreditation Committee, and approved by the SRM Board of Directors on Thursday, November 8, 2012.

The SRM Program Accreditation Committee (PAC) recognized the Rangeland Management and Conservation program at UAAAN as an exemplary program in many ways. The breadth of courses offered and the contemporary nature of topics covered in courses is exceptional. The portfolio of courses offered to students at UAAAN is quite impressive and the faculty team offering these courses has strong academic backgrounds and considerable practical experience. The SRM strongly commends the Rangeland Management and Conservation program for the extent to which it encourages students to participate in professional activities including the SRM annual meeting. The UAAAN has a remarkable standard of achievement in plant identification at the international meeting. Our society greatly values this opportunity for all students to interact with students from other countries and universities.

We accredit the Rangeland Management and Conservation program at UAAAN with one caveat. At the time of review, the program did not list courses in soils or plant identification as degree requirements. Most students in the program take courses in these areas, but the SRM views these topics as a necessary requirement for accreditation. We understand that faculty members at the UAAAN have begun the process to add courses in soils and plant identification as requirements in the Rangeland Management and Conservation degree. We view courses on these topics as essential and will rescind accreditation if these degree requirements are not added within the first

MISSION: To promote the professional development and continuing education of members and the public and the stewardship of rangeland resources VISION: A well-trained and highly motivated group of professionals and rangeland users working with productive, sustainable rangeland ecosystems

year of accreditation. Please send me evidence when courses in soil science and plant identification are added as degree requirements.

The first time a university program is accredited it is required to be examined for re-accreditation within 5 years of initial notice of accreditation. Thus, the SRM will request a self-evaluation report, review team visit, and examination in the fall semester of 2017.

The accreditation of the Rangeland Management and Conservation Program at the Universidad Autonoma Agraria Antonio Narro historic in that it represents the first time an institution outside the United States has been accredited. The SRM views this noteworthy accomplishment as a great step forward in the development of academic rangeland programs. We appreciate the efforts of UAAAN to initiate this new era of rangeland education.

Respectfully,

Gary Frasier

President of the Society for Range Management

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CC: Dr. Ramiro López Trujillo, Leader of the Animal Science Division for UAAAN

Dr. Carlos Villalobos, Chair of SRM Accreditation Visitation Team

Dr. Karen Launchbaugh, Chair of SRM Program Accreditation Committee