



January 28, 2026

Prof. Dr. Amin Bakhshandeh  
Department Representative,  
School of Chemistry and Foods  
Federal University of Rio Grande  
Rio Grande, Rio Grande do Sul,  
Brasil

Dear Prof. Bakhshandeh,

Thank you for your patience as we worked through the application process for the ACS Global Recognition Program. I am happy to report that, upon full committee approval, the Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry program at the Federal University of Rio Grande (FURG) will receive **ACS Recognition** as an institution that is **aligned with the ACS Guidelines for International Chemistry Programs**.

This letter serves as a summary and evaluation of your program by the Global Recognition subcommittee of the ACS Committee on Professional Training (CPT). This subcommittee reviewed the submitted materials and met with multiple faculty members, staff, and administrators. The virtual conference addressed several questions from the subcommittee regarding curriculum, faculty affairs, and infrastructure & operations.

#### **Faculty Affairs**

The committee was particularly impressed by the strength and depth of your faculty. The institution's commitment to academic excellence is clearly reflected in the robust number of highly trained faculty and staff, with 32 of the 33 faculty members holding doctoral degrees. This exceptional level of expertise not only demonstrates a strong foundation for high-quality instruction and mentorship, but also reinforces confidence in your capacity to sustain rigorous academic standards moving forward.

#### **Curriculum**

The curriculum in chemistry was found to be more than sufficient to meet the requirements described in the international guidelines. The coursework covered all traditional areas of chemistry: analytical, biochemistry, inorganic, organic, and physical chemistry (ABIOP).

The committee was particularly impressed by the requirements for the students to undertake internship/research experiences, as well as the availability of dedicated nanotechnology and materials science coursework, all of which are important ingredients to help students succeed in the global chemistry enterprise.

#### **Infrastructure & Operations**

The instrument holdings were deemed more than satisfactory according to the international guidelines, with holdings in all the major categories. There is also a robust and impressive safety culture in the department.

**Recommendation**

The subcommittee would like to encourage the department to continue the current efforts being made to improve student outcomes in the undergraduate chemistry program.

Overall, the program at FURG clearly aligns with the requirements in the ACS Guidelines for International Chemistry Programs.

This recognition is valid for six (6) years upon which the program will be required to undergo a reevaluation process to assess its progress. A brief report is also required each year detailing current enrollment and graduation rates, as well as any major changes to staffing levels.

Once again, **congratulations** on being an ACS Recognized program. Expect to receive further information from us, regarding the next steps.

Sincerely,



Wasiu A. Lawal, Ph.D.  
Program Manager,  
ACS Global Recognition Program

cc: Dr. Ashley Mahoney, Chairperson, ACS Committee on Professional Training  
Dr. Nestor Carballeira, Chairperson, CPT Global Activities Subcommittee  
Dr. Michelle M. Brooks, Assistant Director, ACS Office of Higher Education  
Prof. Dr. Rosilene Maria Clementin: Chair of the Chemistry Department, FURG  
Prof. Dr. Paulo Henrique Beck: Vice Chair of the Chemistry Department, FURG