



June 30, 2020

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Dr. Brent Coltharp, President
Urshan College and Urshan Graduate School of Theology
1151 Century Tel Dr.
Wentzville, MO 63385

Dear President Coltharp:

This letter is formal notification of action taken by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Board of Trustees (“the Board”) concerning Urshan College & Urshan Graduate School of Theology (“the System”). This action is effective as of the date the Board acted, June 25, 2020. In taking this action, the Board considered materials from the most recent comprehensive evaluation, including, but not limited to: the Assurance Filing the System submitted, the report from the comprehensive evaluation team, the report of the Institutional Actions Council (IAC) Hearing Committee, and the institutional responses to these reports.

Summary of the Action: The System has been granted initial accreditation. The System is accredited to offer programs at the Associate's, Bachelor's, and Master's levels, limited to: the Associate of Arts in General Studies, Bachelor of Arts in Christian Ministry, Bachelor of Arts in Music Ministry, Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Leadership, Bachelor of Arts in Human Services, Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies, Bachelor of Music, Master of Divinity, Master of Arts in Christian Ministry, and Master of Theological Studies. Any new program(s) may require prior HLC approval.

Board Rationale

The Board based its action on the following findings made with regard to the System as well as the entire record before the Board:

Urshan College and Urshan Graduate School of Theology meets the Eligibility Requirements, the Assumed Practices, and the Criteria for Accreditation, including all Core Components, without any concerns.

The System is currently in compliance with all Federal Compliance Requirements.

Next Steps in the HLC Review Process

Comprehensive Evaluation: The System is assigned to the Standard Pathway for its initial ten-year cycle. An institution in its first cycle of accreditation undergoes a comprehensive evaluation and is

considered for reaffirmation of accreditation in Year 4 of the ten-year cycle. If reaffirmation of accreditation is granted in Year 4, the institution moves to Year 5 and continues on the Standard Pathway until it completes the ten-year cycle.¹ The System will host its next comprehensive evaluation for reaffirmation of accreditation (Year 4) in 2023-24.

HLC Disclosure Obligations

The Board action resulted in changes that will be reflected in the System's Statement of Accreditation Status as well as the Institutional Status and Requirements Report. The Statement of Accreditation Status, including the dates of the last and next comprehensive evaluation visits, will be posted to the HLC website.

In accordance with HLC policy,² information about this action is provided to members of the public and to other constituents in several ways. This Action Letter will be posted to HLC's website not more than one business day after this letter is sent to the System.

Additionally, a summary of Board actions will be sent to appropriate state and federal agencies and accrediting associations. It also will be published on HLC's website. The summary will include this HLC action regarding the System.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, thank you in advance for your cooperation. If you have questions about any of the information in this letter, please contact your HLC Staff Liaison, Dr. Gigi Fansler.

Sincerely,



Barbara Gellman-Danley
President

Cc: Chair of the Board of Trustees, Urshan College and Urshan Graduate School of Theology
Jennie Russell, Executive Vice President, Urshan College and Urshan Graduate School of
Theology
Evaluation Team Chair
IAC Hearing Committee Chair

¹ INST.C.10.010, Substantive Requirements for Reaffirmation of Accreditation

² INST.G.10.010, Management of Commission Information; COMM.A.10.010, Commission Public Notices and Statements

A. Gigi Fansler, Vice President of Accreditation Relations, Higher Learning Commission
Anthea Sweeney, Vice President of Legal and Regulatory Affairs, Higher Learning
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Angelette Prichett, Director of Academic Programs and Initiatives, Missouri Department of
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Herman Bounds, Accreditation and State Liaison, Office of Postsecondary Education, U.S.
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