

January 12, 2024

Dr. Jim Dunn  
President  
Oklahoma Wesleyan University  
2201 Silver Lake Road  
Bartlesville, OK 74006

Dear President Dunn:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning Oklahoma Wesleyan University (the institution) by the Institutional Actions Council (IAC) of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) at its meeting on January 9, 2024. The date of this action constitutes the effective date of the institution's new status with HLC.

**Action with Interim Monitoring.** IAC continued the accreditation of Oklahoma Wesleyan University with the next Reaffirmation of Accreditation in 2033-34. In conjunction with this action, IAC required the following interim monitoring.

**Embedded Report.** Embedded Monitoring in the Mid Cycle Review: a comprehensive report on student retention, persistence and completion initiatives (Core Component 4C).

The report should include the following:

1. How the institution has systematized data collection and analysis on student retention, persistence, and completion.
2. Established goals by relevant student subpopulations.
3. Analysis of the data against goals/objectives to determine whether goals have been met and a description of interventions, monitoring, and progress based on those analyses.

Further, IAC changed the team's evaluation of Criterion 5B from "Met" to "Met with Concerns" and determined a monitoring report should be submitted.

**Interim Report.** A report due by January 30, 2026 providing the plan for and progress toward eliminating operating budget deficits and increasing enrollment. The report should include audited financial statements since 2023.

In taking this action, the IAC considered materials from the most recent evaluation and the institutional response (if applicable) to the evaluation findings.

**Rationale:** Based on the team's report on long-term enrollment declines, successive years of budget deficits, and low proportion of full-time faculty to support the student population and number of academic programs, IAC concluded that the long-term viability of the institution could be at risk if it does not address these issues.

IAC determined that 5B is "Met with Concerns" versus "Met" because of the institution's overall multi-year decline in enrollment. The institution's CFI has been above the zone, there have been no findings in financial audits, the institution has no long-term debt, and the institution reports it currently has approximately \$5,000,000 in cash reserves. 2023 enrollments are reported to have improved over prior

years, but the institution must sustain these increases. Therefore, IAC is requiring an interim report in two years in which the institution provides its audited financials and reports on progress toward eliminating its operating budget deficits and increasing enrollment.

In two weeks, this action will be added to the *Institutional Status and Requirements (ISR) Report*, a resource for the institution to review and manage information regarding its accreditation relationship. Chief Executive Officers and Accreditation Liaison Officers may download the ISR Report in Canopy at <https://canopy.hlcommission.org>.

Within the next 30 days, HLC will also publish information about this action on its website at <https://www.hlcommission.org/Student-Resources/recent-actions>.

If you have any questions about these documents after viewing them, please contact the institution's staff liaison, Jeffrey Rosen. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,



Barbara Gellman-Danley  
President

cc: Keri Bostwick, Accreditation Liaison Officer  
Jeffrey Rosen, HLC Staff Liaison