Recent Board Action
On November 5, 2015, the Higher Learning Commission Board of Trustees (the Board) withdrew accreditation from the College effective at the end of the Fall term on December 20, 2015. The College requested and was granted an extension of the effective date of withdrawal of accreditation to January 22, 2016.

The Board found that the College has not addressed the findings leading to being placed on Probation in November 2013 and determined the College lacks the financial resources and planning necessary to support the College now and in the future. The College was informed that to be removed from Probation it must document that it fully meets each of the Criteria for Accreditation, as well as that it has addressed each of the findings of the Board identified in the action placing the institution on Probation, and that the consequences of failure to do so would be withdrawal of accreditation.

The Criteria for Accreditation of which the College remains out of compliance with are Criterion Five, Core Component 5.A, “the institution’s resource base supports its current educational programs and its plans for maintaining and strengthening their quality in the future,” Criterion Five, Core Component 5.C, “the institution engages in systematic and integrated planning,” and Criterion Five, Core Component 5.D, “the institution works systematically to improve its performance.”

Next Steps
The College is required by this action to file a teach-out plan no later than December 3, 2015 that includes evidence students have been notified about the withdrawal action and includes plans to notify students as soon as possible about the availability of a teach-out for those College students who will be completing their academic program in the next year.

The College has chosen not to appeal this action. The effective withdrawal date of accreditation will be January 22, 2016.

About the Higher Learning Commission
The Higher Learning Commission accredits approximately 1,000 colleges and universities that have a home base in one of 19 states that stretch from West Virginia to Arizona. HLC is a private, nonprofit regional accrediting agency. HLC’s mission is to assure and advance the quality of higher learning. It is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. The institutions HLC accredits include public, private not-for-profit, and proprietary institutions at degree levels from the associate’s through the doctoral degree level and from small, specialized institutions through large research universities.

Students, parents, and others from the general public with questions regarding the Commission’s work should contact John Hausaman by email at info@hlcommission.org or by phone at 312-263-0456.

Updated: December 15, 2015