Public Disclosure Notice on
Winebrenner Theological Seminary
Findlay, Ohio
Effective: June 25, 2015

Winebrenner Theological Seminary (“the Seminary”) in Findlay, Ohio, is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (“HLC”); it has been placed on Probation.

Understanding Probation
Probation is a public status signifying that an accredited institution is no longer in compliance with one or more of HLC’s Criteria for Accreditation. The period of Probation is not more than two years, commencing with the date that the Board placed the institution on Probation. During the Probation period, the institution remains accredited and it has the opportunity to remedy the concerns that led to the Probation sanction.

In most cases, because institutions on Probation remain accredited, other institutions of higher education will continue to accept the institution’s credits in transfer or for admission to a program at a higher degree level. However, students enrolled at an institution on Probation and interested in pursuing a higher degree or transferring should contact any institution they plan to attend in the future to confirm the institution’s admission and transfer policies.

Recent Board Action
On June 25, 2015, the Higher Learning Commission placed the Seminary on Probation. HLC’s Board of Trustees took this action because of concerns related to resources and planning. The Board based its action on the findings of a comprehensive evaluation.

The Criterion for Accreditation and Core Components on which the Board based its action and with which the Seminary was found to be non-compliant is 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” and Core Component 5.C, “the institution engages in systematic and integrated planning.”

Next Steps
The Seminary is required to file an Assurance Filing in September 2016 providing evidence that the Seminary has resolved the concerns of the Board identified in the Probation action and evidence that the Seminary meets the Criteria for Accreditation and Core Components.

The Seminary will host a comprehensive evaluation by November 2016 to determine whether the concerns of the Board identified in its action have been resolved and the Criteria for Accreditation have been met. At its meeting in June 2017, the Board will review materials related to this evaluation and determine whether the Seminary can be removed from Probation. If the Seminary has not resolved the Board’s concerns that led to the imposition of Probation and has not demonstrated that it is in compliance with all Criteria for Accreditation, other action may be appropriate.

About the Higher Learning Commission
The Higher Learning Commission accredits about 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 HLC’s work should contact John Hausaman at the Higher Learning Commission by email at info@hlcommission.org or by phone at 312-263-0456.

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