

June 19, 2017

Dr. Darrel Colson
President
Wartburg College
100 Wartburg Blvd.
Waverly, IA 50677-0903

Dear President Colson:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning Wartburg College by the Institutional Actions Council of the Higher Learning Commission at its meeting on June 12, 2017. 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 Wartburg College with the next Reaffirmation of Accreditation in 2026-27. In conjunction with this action, IAC required the following interim monitoring.

Interim Report. Interim Reports due 2/1/2018, 2/1/2019, 2/1/2020: on Assessment of Student Learning focused on demonstrating greater consistency across departments and programs, as well as in relation to General Education and co-curricular programs, in the use of direct and indirect measures of student learning to show that established learning goals are being accomplished and to show evidence that these assessment data are being utilized to improve pedagogy and/or curriculum so as to address areas wherein student learning falls short of designated goals. This progress in assessment should also be documented in the program review process and further evidence of the growth of a culture of assessment should be provided in the Interim Report.

Rationale: The institution provided a three-year assessment plan, however, IAC feels that an ongoing, aggressive assessment monitoring process needs to be addressed and developed to ascertain that the institution does understand how assessments are utilized. According to evidence supplied by the visiting team, eighty percent of the institution's 39 programs had submitted assessment plans. Of the total submissions, only 11 contained concrete improvement plans. The team found little evidence that improvement plans were being implemented at the time of the visit. The team noted that program review reports provided little evidence of how assessment informed either instructional changes or improvements in student learning. The structure of the institution's program level assessment may be challenged to provide continuity and oversight for meaningful assessment. Finally, the assessment of General Education (Essential Education) also appeared to be inconsistent across programs and courses.

In two weeks, this action will be added to the *Institutional Status and Requirements (ISR) Report*, a resource for Accreditation Liaison Officers to review and manage information regarding the institution's accreditation relationship. Accreditation Liaison Officers may request the ISR Report on HLC's website at <http://www.hlcommission.org/isr-request>.

Information on notifying the public of this action is available at <http://www.hlcommission.org/HLC-Institutions/institutional-reporting-of-actions.html>.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Gellman-Danley".

Barbara Gellman-Danley
President

CC: ALO