



## **Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools Accreditation Commission Meeting April 24-26, 2017**

Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport  
9300 Jeff Fuqua Blvd  
Orlando, Florida, USA, 32827

### **COMMISSION ACTIONS**

#### **CANDIDATE STATUS**

Candidate Status is granted to institutions that are in Basic Compliance with the TRACS Standards. Basic Compliance is the determination by the Accreditation Commission that an institution is in full compliance with all Standards related to the Institutional Eligibility Requirements (IERs) and has the ability to be in Substantive Compliance with all of the Accreditation Standards within the period of candidacy. Candidacy is for a period of up to a five-years. During that time, each institution must come into Substantive Compliance with all of the Accreditation Standards, conduct a self-study, host an on-site team evaluation, and appear before the Accreditation Commission for Accredited Status by April 2022. To maintain Candidate Status, the institution must remain in compliance with all IER-related standards.

The following institutions were granted Candidate Status by the TRACS Accreditation Commission after completing a successful self-study and being evaluated by an on-site evaluation team:

**African Bible College** (Area 47, Plot 530, Lilongwe, Malawi, Southeast Africa)

At the April 24-26, 2017, meeting, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to grant African Bible College (ABC) Candidate Status as a Category III institution. The Commission action requires that the institution submit a Progress Report by August 15, 2017, addressing any remaining recommendations and suggestions of the visiting team. Additionally, ABC must demonstrate compliance with all remaining recommendations prior to receiving permission to begin the process for Accredited Status.

**Athens College of Ministry** (1331 New High Shoals Rd, Watkinsville, GA 30677)

At the April 24-26, 2017, meeting, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to grant Athens College of Ministry (ACOM) Candidate Status as a Category III institution. The Commission action requires that the institution submit a Progress Report by August 15, 2017, addressing any remaining recommendations and suggestions of the visiting team. Additionally, ACOM must demonstrate compliance with all remaining recommendations prior to receiving permission to begin the process for Accredited Status.

**California Graduate School of Theology** (11277 Garden Grove Blvd., Garden Grove, CA 92843)

At the April 24-26, 2017, meeting, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to grant California

Graduate School of Theology (CGSOT) Candidate Status as a Category IV institution. The Commission action requires that the institution submit a Progress Report by August 15, 2017, addressing any remaining recommendations and suggestions of the visiting team. Additionally, CGSOT must demonstrate compliance with all remaining recommendations prior to receiving permission to begin the process for Accredited Status.

**Kernel University** (3319 W. Lincoln Avenue, Anaheim, CA 92804)

At the April 24-26, 2017, meeting, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to grant Kernel University (KU) Candidate Status as a Category III institution. The Commission action requires that the institution submit a Progress Report by August 15, 2017, addressing any remaining recommendations and suggestions of the visiting team. Additionally, KU must demonstrate compliance with all remaining recommendations prior to receiving permission to begin the process for Accredited Status.

**Southeastern Free Will Baptist College** (532 Eagle Rock Road, Wendell, NC 27591)

At the April 24-26, 2017, meeting, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to grant Southeastern Free Will Baptist College (SFWBC) Candidate Status as a Category II institution with one condition. The Commission action requires that the institution submit a Progress Report by August 15, 2017, demonstrating compliance with the condition and addressing any remaining recommendations and suggestions of the visiting team. Additionally, SFWBC must demonstrate compliance with all remaining recommendations prior to receiving permission to begin the process for Accredited Status.

## **ACCREDITED STATUS**

Accredited Status is granted to institutions that are in Substantive Compliance with the TRACS Standards. Substantive Compliance indicates that the Accreditation Commission has determined that an institution's level of compliance is sufficient to warrant accreditation and that the institution can come into full compliance with all the Accreditation Standards within a maximum of two years. Initial accreditation is for a period of five years. For Reaffirmation I, each institution must complete a successful self-study, host an on-site team evaluation, respond to the team recommendations, and appear before the Accreditation Commission by April 2022.

The following institution was granted Accredited Status by the TRACS Accreditation Commission after completing a successful self-study and being evaluated by an on-site evaluation team:

**John Witherspoon College** (4021 Range Road, Rapid City, SD 57702)

At the April 24-26, 2017, meeting, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to grant John Witherspoon College Accredited status as a Category II institution. All recommendations and suggestions of the visiting team have been brought into compliance. No further reports are required at this time.

## **REAFFIRMATION**

Reaffirmation is granted to institutions that are in *Substantive Compliance* with the TRACS Standards. *Substantive Compliance* indicates that the Accreditation Commission has determined that an institution's level of compliance is sufficient to warrant accreditation and that the institution can come into full compliance with all the Accreditation Standards within a maximum of two years. Reaffirmation is for a period of ten years with an Interim Fifth Year Review (IFYR). For the next

Reaffirmation cycle, each institution must complete a successful self-study, host an on-site team evaluation, respond to the team recommendations, and appear before the Accreditation Commission by April 2027.

The following institutions were granted Reaffirmation by the TRACS Accreditation Commission after completing a successful self-study and being evaluated by an on-site evaluation team:

**Evangelia University** (2660 W. Woodland Drive, Suite 200, Anaheim, CA 92801)

At the April 24-26, 2017, meeting, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to grant Evangelia University Reaffirmation I status as a Category IV institution. All recommendations and suggestions of the visiting team have been brought into compliance. No further reports are required at this time.

**Grace Mission University** (1645 W. Valencia Dr., Fullerton, CA 92833)

At the April 24-26, 2017, meeting, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to grant Grace Mission University (GMU), Reaffirmation I status as a Category IV institution. The Commission action requires that the institution submit a Progress Report by August 15, 2017, addressing any remaining recommendations and suggestions of the visiting team. Additionally, the Commission action requires that GMU provide evidence of coming into compliance with all recommendations by February 15, 2018, and submit documentation supporting this for presentation at the spring 2018 Accreditation Commission meeting.

**Grace School of Theology** (3705 College Park Drive, The Woodlands, TX 77384)

At the April 24-26, 2017, meeting, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to grant Grace School of Theology (GSOT), Reaffirmation I status as a Category IV institution. The Commission action requires that the institution submit a Progress Report by August 15, 2017, addressing any remaining recommendations and suggestions of the visiting team. Additionally, the Commission action requires that GSOT provide evidence of coming into compliance with all recommendations by February 15, 2018, and submit documentation supporting this for presentation at the spring 2018 Accreditation Commission meeting.

**Lutheran Brethren Seminary** (1036 W. Alcott Avenue, Fergus Falls, MN 56537)

At the April 24-26, 2017, meeting, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to grant Lutheran Brethren Seminary, Reaffirmation I status as a Category III institution. All recommendations and suggestions of the visiting team have been brought into compliance. No further reports are required at this time.

## DEFERRAL

**Georgia Christian University** (6789 Peachtree Industrial Blvd., Atlanta, GA 30360)

At the April 24-26, 2017, meeting, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to defer granting Reaffirmation I Status to Georgia Christian University (GCU) as a Category IV institution. This action was taken because of the noncompliance of GCU with the following TRACS Standard Evaluative Criteria:

- 21.5 The institution did not make available library and information resources for its non-theological programs. (IER #9a)
- 19.6.b The institution did not demonstrate the use of direct measures to assess the achievement of student learning outcomes at the program and course levels.

The Commission action requires that GCU submit a Progress Report by August 15, 2017, addressing any remaining recommendations and suggestions of the visiting team. Additionally, GCU must demonstrate compliance with the two Criteria listed above by August 15, 2017, at which time the institution will be able to re-appear before the Accreditation Commission for consideration of Reaffirmation I status. Further, the institution must provide evidence of coming into compliance with all recommendations and suggestions by August 15, 2018, and provide documentation supporting this for presentation at the fall 2018 Accreditation Commission meeting.

## **REMOVAL OF ADVERSE ACTION**

**Community Christian College (CCC)** (1849 N. Wabash Ave., Redlands, CA 92374-4970)

At the April 24-26, 2017, meeting, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to remove CCC from *Show Cause* after determining that the institution has demonstrated financial stability and compliance with TRACS Standard Evaluative Criteria 17.1 (Institutional Eligibility Requirement) and 17.5.

**Faith Theological Seminary (FTS)** (529 Walker Ave, Baltimore, MD 21212)

At the April 24-26, 2017, meeting, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to remove FTS from *Probation* after determining that the institution has demonstrated financial stability and compliance with TRACS Standard Evaluative Criteria 17.1 (Institutional Eligibility Requirement) and 17.5.

## **ADVERSE ACTION**

**Boston Baptist College (BBC)** (950 Metropolitan Avenue, Boston, MA 02136)

At the April 24-26, 2017, meeting, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to place BBC on Probation for failure to adequately maintain the financial stability of the institution and for non-compliance with TRACS Standard Evaluative Criteria 17.1 (Institutional Eligibility Requirement) and 17.5. BBC will have one year to come into compliance with these Standards, with a first Progress Report due August 15, 2017. A second Progress Report will be due February 15, 2018. The institution has a right to appeal this action, and the action will not become final until the expiration of the appeal period.

**Maple Springs Baptist Bible College and Seminary (MSBBCS)** (4130 Belt Rd, Capitol Heights, MD 20743)

At the April 24-26, 2017, meeting, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to place MSBBCS on Probation for failure to adequately maintain the financial stability of the institution and for non-compliance with TRACS Standard Evaluative Criteria 17.1 (Institutional Eligibility Requirement) and 17.5. MSBBCS will have one year to come into compliance with these Standards, with a first Progress Report due August 15, 2017. A second Progress Report will be due February 15, 2018. The institution has a right to appeal this action, and the action will not become final until the expiration of the appeal period.

## **SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE APPROVED BY THE ACCREDITATION COMMISSION**

At the April 24-26, 2017, meeting, the TRACS Accreditation Commission approved the following Substantive Change:

**Central Baptist Theological Seminary** (900 Forestview Lane N, Plymouth, Minnesota 55441)

- *To add an Alternative Delivery Method*

## **INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES REVIEWED BY THE ACCREDITATION COMMISSION**

At the April 24-26, 2017, meeting, the TRACS Accreditation Commission reviewed the following Institutional Changes, previously approved by TRACS:

Georgia Christian University (6789 Peachtree Industrial Blvd., Atlanta, GA 30360)

- *To establish a teaching site at: 61 Church Street, Teaneck, NJ 07666*

Grace Mission University (1645 W. Valencia Dr., Fullerton, CA 92833)

- *To establish a teaching site at: 1520 James M. Wood Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90015*

Grace School of Theology (3705 College Park Drive, The Woodlands, TX 77384)

- *To establish a teaching site at: Cabacu 227A Baracoa 97310, Guantánamo, Cuba 35173*
- *To establish a teaching site at: Calle Carlos Manuel de Céspedes Esquina Crombet # 866, Guantananamo, Cuba*
- *To establish a teaching site at: Bazan 4, Sagua, Cuba*
- *To establish a teaching site at: Pío Rosado 503 Entre José A. Saco y Heredia, Santiago de Cuba, Cuba*

Veritas Evangelical Seminary (3000 W. MacArthur Boulevard, Suite 220, Santa Ana, CA 92704)

- *To establish a teaching site at: 7600 Jefferson St. NE, Suite 28, Albuquerque, NM 87109*