



**Transnational Association of Christian  
Colleges and Schools  
Accreditation Commission Meeting  
October 23-24, 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 October 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:

**Champion Christian College** (600 Garland Avenue, Hot Springs, AK 71913)

At the meeting on October 24, 2017, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to grant Champion Christian College (CCC) Candidate status as a Category II institution. The Commission action requires that the institution submit a Progress Report by February 15, 2018, addressing any remaining recommendations and suggestions of the visiting team. Additionally, CCC must demonstrate compliance with all remaining recommendations prior to receiving permission to begin the process for Accredited Status.

**Sierra States University** (1818 S. Western Ave. #304, Los Angeles, CA 90006)

At the meeting on October 24, 2017, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to grant Sierra States University (SSU) Candidate status as a Category IV institution. The Commission action requires that the institution submit a Progress Report by February 15, 2018, addressing any remaining recommendations and suggestions of the visiting team. Additionally, SSU must demonstrate compliance with all remaining recommendations prior to receiving permission to begin the process for Accredited Status.

**University of South Los Angeles** (555 W. Redondo Beach Blvd., Gardena, CA 90248)

At the meeting on October 24, 2017, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to grant the University of South Los Angeles (USLA) Candidate status as a Category IV institution. The Commission action requires that the institution submit a Progress Report by February 15, 2018, addressing any remaining recommendations and suggestions of the visiting team. Additionally,

USLA must demonstrate compliance with all remaining recommendations prior to receiving permission to begin the process for Accredited Status.

**Virginia Bible College** (1006 Williamstown Drive, Dumfries, VA 22026)

At the meeting on October 24, 2017, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to grant Virginia Bible College (VBC) Candidate status as a Category IV institution. The Commission action requires that the institution submit a Progress Report by February 15, 2018, addressing any remaining recommendations and suggestions of the visiting team. Additionally, VBC 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 October 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:

**American University of Health Sciences** (1600 East Hill Street, Signal City, CA 90755)

At the meeting on October 24, 2017, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to grant the American University of Health Sciences (AUHS) Accredited status as a Category III institution. The Commission action requires that the institution submit a Progress Report by February 15, 2018, addressing any remaining recommendations and suggestions of the visiting team.

## **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, the 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 October 2027.

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

**Shorter College** (604 Locust Street, North Little Rock, AR 72114)

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

## DEFERRAL

### **Northern California Bible College** (4439 Stonebridge Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588)

At the meeting on October 24, 2017, the TRACS Accreditation Commission voted to defer granting Candidate status to Northern California Bible College (NCBC) as a Category II institution. Before re-appearing before the Accreditation Commission for consideration of Candidate status, NCBC must demonstrate compliance with TRACS Standards and Federal Regulations concerning Distance Education. The Commission action requires that NCBC submit a Progress Report by February 15, 2018, addressing any remaining recommendations and suggestions of the visiting team. A deadline for demonstrating full compliance with all TRACS Standards will be determined once Candidate status is attained.

## ADVERSE ACTION

### **Morthland College** (P.O. Box 429, West Frankfort, IL 62896)

On October 24, 2017, the Accreditation Commission voted to place Morthland College (MC) on *Probation*. MC will have one year to come into compliance with the Standards noted below with a first *Progress Report* due February 15, 2018. A second *Progress Report* will be due August 15, 2018. The Commission action became final upon the expiration of the Appeal period on November 20, 2017. The institution will maintain the current *Accredited – On Probation* Status until the October 2018 meeting of the Accreditation Commission.

The TRACS Accreditation Commission has the following options:

If the institution corrects its deficiencies and demonstrates compliance with the Accreditation Standards noted below, the Accreditation Commission shall remove all adverse action against the institution.

If the institution has not corrected its deficiencies and demonstrated compliance with the Accreditation Standards noted below within the period allowed, the Accreditation Commission can:

- i. Grant an extension of *Probation* for no more than six months (This can only be granted one time and is not granted as a matter of right.); or
- ii. Require the institution to Show Cause why its accreditation should not be terminated.

This action of the Accreditation Commission is based on the determination that the institution's non-compliance with the Accreditation Standards is substantively significant and rises to the level where the institution's ability to fulfill its mission or to provide a quality educational experience consistent with that associated with an accredited post-secondary institution is in question. In summary, the Commission found that MC could not demonstrate compliance with Standards 17.1, 17.2, 17.3, 17.4, 17.5, 17.6, 17.7, and 18.1 (Financial Stability).

## VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL FROM ACCREDITATION

At the October 23-24, 2017, meeting, the Accreditation Commission accepted the requests of the following institutions to withdraw from accreditation. According to TRACS policy, the withdrawals become final on the last day of the academic term during which the request for withdrawal was received by TRACS.

### **Christian Life College** (400 E. Gregory Street, Mount Prospect, IL 60056)

*Effective date: December 15, 2017*

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

*Effective date: December 16, 2017*

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

At the October 23-24, 2017, meeting, the TRACS Accreditation Commission approved the following substantive changes:

Ivy Christian College (9401 Mathy Drive, Suite 380, Fairfax, VA 22031)

- *To add Distance Education (limited to students in the state of Virginia)*

New St. Andrews College (405 South Main Street, Moscow, ID 83843)

- *To add a Certificate of Music*

Piedmont International University (420 South Broad Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101)

- *To acquire Southeastern Bible College*
- *To acquire John Wesley University*

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

*(The addition of two doctorate programs moved VES from a Category III institution to a Category IV institution.)*

- *To add an M.A. in Archeology and Biblical History program*
- *To add a Ph.D. in Archeology and Biblical History program*
- *To add a B.A. in Christian Studies program*
- *To add a D.Min. in Christian Apologetics program*

Visible Music College (200 Madison Avenue, Memphis, TN 38103)

- *To add a Master of Arts in Leadership (and move from a Category II institution to a Category III institution)*

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

At the October 23-24, 2017, meeting, the TRACS Accreditation Commission reviewed the following institutional changes, previously approved by TRACS:

Charlotte Christian College and Theological Seminary (3117 Whiting Avenue, Charlotte, NC 28206)

- *To establish a teaching site at: 7027 Stilwell Road, Matthews, NC 28105*

Faith Theological Seminary (529 Walker Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21212)

- *To establish a teaching site at: 1518 N. Rolling Road, Catonsville, MD 21228*

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

- *To establish a teaching site at: 1200 West Lambert Road, Brea, CA 92821*  
*(Site accredited until date of withdrawal: December 16, 2017)*

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

- *To establish a teaching site at: 10752 Coastwood Road, San Diego, CA 92127*
- *To establish a teaching site at: 39407 Murrieta Hot Springs Road, Murrieta, CA 92563*

Visible Music College (200 Madison Avenue, Memphis, TN 38103)

- *To establish a teaching site at: 6225 Atascadero Avenue, Atascadero, CA 93422*
- *To establish a teaching site at: 933 College View Drive, Redding, CA 96003*

Word of Life Bible Institute (4200 Glendale Drive, Pottersville, NY 12860)

- *To establish a teaching site at: Alameda Periquitos 98, Atibaia, São Paulo, Brazil*
- *To establish a teaching site at: BR 408, Km 81, Paudalho, Pernambuco, Brazil*
- *To establish a teaching site at: Avenue Joaquim Pereira de Queiroz, 405, Benevides, Para, Brazil*