Report from the Accrediting Commission

July 27, 2015

In accordance with its procedure for Notification and Information Sharing (Section D(3), Procedures, DEAC Accreditation Handbook) and 34 Code of Federal Regulations §602.26(a)(1)&(2), the Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DEAC or the Commission) will provide written notice to the U.S. Secretary of Education, the appropriate state licensing or authorizing agencies, and appropriate accrediting agencies at the same time it notifies the institution of the decisions to accredit or reaccredit an institution and no later than 30 days after the Commission makes its decision. The Commission provides notice of its accreditation decisions to the public on its website. This is a report of the actions taken by the DEAC at its meeting held on June 26, 2015.

The DEAC Accreditation Handbook is under review and information regarding this project is forthcoming.

Grant of Accreditation

Nations University                        Founded in 1996
Dr. Mac Lynn, President                  Renewal of Accreditation in 2018
650 Poydras Street, Suite 1400, PMB 133
New Orleans, LA 70130
www.nationsu.org
macl@nationsu.org
(866) 617-6446

Accredited Programs
- Certificate in Religious Studies
- Bachelor of Religious Studies
- Master of Theological Studies
- Master of Divinity

The Commission awarded Nations University an initial grant of accreditation for a three-year period following a comprehensive evaluation of the institution and its programs. The institution has been found to meet or exceed each of the Commission’s standards for accreditation.
Renewal of Accreditation

City Vision University

Dr. Andrew Sears, President
3101 Troost Avenue, Suite 200
Kansas City, MO 64109
www.cityvision.edu
info@cityvision.edu
(816) 960-2008

Accredited Programs
Certificates
• Urban Ministry
• Nonprofit Management
• Addiction Studies
Bachelor’s Completion
• Bachelor of Arts in Missions with Emphasis in Urban Ministry
• Bachelor of Science in Nonprofit Management
• Bachelor of Science in Addiction Studies
Master’s Degree
• Master of Science in Technology and Ministry

The Commission awarded City Vision University a renewal of accreditation without conditions for a five-year period following a comprehensive evaluation of the institution and its programs. The institution was found to meet or exceed the Commission’s standards for accreditation.

Grace Communion Seminary

Dr. Gary Deddo, President
2011 East Financial Way, PO Box 5005
Glendora, CA 91740-0730
www.gcs.edu
registrar@gcs.edu
(800) 851-2611

Accredited Programs
• Master of Pastoral Studies
• Master of Theological Studies
• Master’s-Level Continuing Education Courses
The Commission awarded Grace Communion Seminary a renewal of accreditation without conditions for a five-year period following a comprehensive evaluation of the institution and its programs. The institution was found to meet or exceed the Commission’s standards for accreditation.

National Paralegal College                Founded in 2002  
Mr. Avi Katz, President                        Renewal of Accreditation in 2020  
717 East Maryland Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85014  
nationalparalegal.edu  
info@nationalparalegal.edu  
(845) 371-9101  

Accredited Programs  
• Certificate in Paralegal Studies  
• Associate of Paralegal Studies  
• Bachelor of Science in Legal Studies  
• Master of Science in Legal Studies  
• Master of Science in Compliance Law  
• Master of Science in Taxation  

The Commission awarded National Paralegal College a renewal of accreditation without conditions for a five-year period following a comprehensive evaluation of the institution and its programs. The institution was found to meet or exceed the Commission’s standards for accreditation.

Sessions College for Professional Design              Founded in 1997  
Mr. Gordon Drummond, President          Renewal of Accreditation in 2020  
51 West Third Street, Suite E-301  
Tempe, AZ 85281  
www.sessions.edu  
admissions@sessions.edu  
(480) 212-1704  

Accredited Programs  
Associate Degree  
• Associate of Occupational Studies in Graphic Design  
• Associate of Occupational Studies in Web Design  
• Associate of Occupational Studies in Digital Media  
• Associate of Occupational Studies in Illustration  
• Associate of Occupational Studies in Advertising Design  
• Associate of Occupational Studies in Digital Photography
Undergraduate Certificate
- Advanced Web Design
- Graphic Design
- Web Design
- Digital Media
- Digital Photography
- Illustration
- Advertising Design
- Print Design

Vocational Programs
- Graphic Design
- Web Design
- Multimedia Arts
- Digital Arts
- Marketing Design
- Fine Arts

The Commission awarded Sessions College for Professional Design a renewal of accreditation without conditions for a five-year period following a comprehensive evaluation of the institution and its programs. The institution was found to meet or exceed the Commission’s standards for accreditation.

Change of Ownership
The Commission confirmed the change of ownership for the following institution.

Penn Foster, Scranton, PA and Phoenix, AZ  Founded in 1974
Penn Foster is a wholly owned subsidiary of Penn Foster Education Group Inc., which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Education Holdings 1 (EH1). Ownership of EH1 is divided between two groups of shareholders, the Vistria Group, LP and Falcon Investment Advisors. Penn Foster, Inc. includes the following divisions: Penn Foster High School, Penn Foster Career School, ICS Canada, and Penn Foster College.

Change of Legal Status
The Commission confirmed a change of legal status for the following institution.

William Loveland College, Loveland, CO  Founded in 1923
The Commission confirmed the institution’s change in legal status to a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization in the state of Colorado.

Change of Location
The Commission confirmed a change of location for the following institutions.
New Administrative Site
The Commission confirmed new administrative sites for the following institution.

Columbia Southern University  Founded in 1993
Mr. Robert Mayes, President
No. 3 Chua Lang Street, Dong Da District, Hanoi, Vietnam, and
No. 7 Nguyen Binh Khiem Street, District 1, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Show Cause Order
The Commission directed the following institution to show cause as to why DEAC accreditation should not be withdrawn.

Ellis University (formerly John Hancock University)  Founded in 2008
Dr. Virginia Carlin, President
Two Mid America Plaza, Suite 824AB
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

New Courses and Programs
The Academic Review Subcommittee of the Accrediting Commission met on March 4, 2015 and approved the following courses/programs.

Allied Business Schools, Inc.
- Nevada Real Estate Law

Ashworth College
- Dog Obedience Trainer Career Diploma
- Occupational Therapy Aide Career Diploma
- Payroll Clerk Career Diploma
Catholic Distance University
- Master of Arts in Theology for Directors of Religious Education and Secondary Schoolteachers

Columbia Southern University
- Master of Public Health with a General Concentration and a Community Health Concentration

Grace Communion Seminary
- Master of Theological Studies

Harrison Middleton University
Change in degree titles for:
- Associate of Arts in Humanities
- Bachelor of Arts
- Master of Arts
- Doctor of Arts
- Doctor of Education

Sessions College for Professional Design
- Associate of Occupational Studies in Digital Photography

Westcliff University
- Bachelor of Arts in Education
- Doctor of Business Administration

Weston Distance Learning (US Career Institute)
- Personal Care Assistant

The Academic Review Subcommittee of the Accrediting Commission met on May 12, 2015 and approved the following courses/programs.

Ashworth College
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing – RN to BSN program

City Vision University
- Certificate in Business Administration
- Associate of Science in Business Administration
- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Grantham University
- Bachelor of Business Administration – Procurement and Contract Management

University of Philosophical Research
- PHI 531 – The Hermetic Tradition (new course)

Weston Distance Learning (U.S. Career Institute)
- Physical Therapy Aide