BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

Malone University

RECOMMENDATION

Malone University meets the Chancellor's standards for graduate programs, and the review team recommends provisional authorization for the Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership degree program. Provisional authorization will continue through June 30, 2013, contingent upon continuing accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, and contingent upon the Chancellor's written approval of progress reports that demonstrate satisfactory progress toward compliance with all standards. The Chancellor shall withdraw authorization if, in the Chancellor's judgment, the progress reports do not demonstrate satisfactory progress in any area. Progress reports are to be submitted by December 31, 2010, 2011, and 2012. A follow-up review will be performed before June 30, 2013 to determine continued authorization of the program.

Profile: Malone University, located in Canton, Ohio, is an independent institution affiliated with the Evangelical Friends Eastern Region. Originally established in 1892 as the Cleveland Bible College (later renamed Malone College after its founders), the university today serves nearly 2,600 students and provides them "an education based on biblical faith in order to develop men and women in intellectual maturity, wisdom, and Christian faith who are committed to serving the church, community, and world."

Accreditation/Authorization: Malone University is regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (HLC) and possesses specialized accreditation for several of its professional programs. The university has been authorized by the Chancellor since April 1969.

Program Information: The university is requesting authorization to deliver a Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership degree program. This thirty-six semester hour, interdisciplinary program, provides students the opportunity to examine leadership theory and contemporary leaders and includes coursework in leadership theory and practice, ethics and corporate social responsibility, research for organizational leaders, psychology of leadership, and cultural perspectives for the twenty-first century leader. The program culminates with a comprehensive examination and capstone project.

Review Results: The review team noted several strengths in the review, including alignment of program and institutional missions, participation of faculty and administration in the development of the program, student support and library resources are in place to support the program, flexible program options that allow students to enter at various points and complete the program on campus and online, the university's intent to primarily staff the program with full-time faculty members, and the resources provided to prepare faculty to develop and teach online courses.

The team also noted some areas of non compliance with the Chancellor's standards and recommended that the institution: submit fully developed syllabi to provide evidence that the curriculum is aligned with program goals and objectives; re-examine the proposed program goals and objectives to determine whether the program is designed to prepare students for professional careers or doctoral education; and submit a copy of HLC's report after the university's spring 2010 focused visit is completed.

The institution responded appropriately to the recommendations of the consultants' report by demonstrating how the recommendations were accepted and integrated into the proposed program, or, in the case of recommendations that could only be complied with over time, by presenting a clear plan for the implementation of the recommendations and a timeline for such.

Recommendation to the Chancellor: Malone University meets the Chancellor's standards for graduate programs, and the review team recommends provisional authorization for the Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership degree program. Provisional authorization will continue through June 30, 2013, contingent upon continuing accreditation from HLC, and contingent upon the Chancellor's written approval of progress reports that demonstrate satisfactory progress toward compliance with all standards. The Chancellor shall withdraw authorization if, in the Chancellor's judgment, the progress reports do not demonstrate satisfactory progress in any area. Progress reports are to be submitted by December 31, 2010, 2011, and 2012. A follow-up review will be performed before June 30, 2013 to determine continued authorization of the program.

End of Comment Period: April 2, 2010
No Comments Received, Recommend Approval

APPROVED

4/12/10

Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor **Date**

MLC