BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

Ohio Christian University

RECOMMENDATION

Ohio Christian University meets the Chancellor’s standards, and the staff recommend continued institutional authorization through December 31, 2017, to coincide with the university’s next accreditation review with the Association of Biblical Higher Education (ABHE). Authorization will continue, contingent upon continuing accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (to be reviewed in 2010) and ABHE. The university will submit a progress report to the Chancellor’s staff by August 31, 2009 to provide an update on the institution’s revision of its general education curriculum. The Chancellor may, in his judgment, withdraw authorization or require additional review, at the institution’s expense, if the university fails to continue to meet the Chancellor’s standards for authorization or is sanctioned by its accreditors.

Profile: Ohio Christian University, located in Circleville, Ohio, was originally established in 1948 as Circleville Bible College. Today, the college prepares nearly 700 students to “serve effectively in the church and society by providing a holistic, Christ-centered, biblically integrated education in the Wesleyan tradition.”

Accreditation/Authorization: Ohio Christian University is regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and possesses specialized accreditation from the Association of Biblical Higher Education. The university has been authorized by the Chancellor since October 1976.

Program Offerings: Ohio Christian University offers Associate of Arts and Bachelor of Arts degree programs. In addition, the university offers its AIM degree completion program for adult learners at Hocking College, Columbus State Community College, Fairfield Christian Academy, and Wendy’s Headquarters (Dublin, Ohio). The university recently submitted a request to the Chancellor to deliver a Master of Arts in Ministry degree program, its first request at the graduate level. That request is currently under review.

Institutional Changes: Since the university’s last reauthorization review, the institution has had a name change; a change in the presidency; and expanded its program offerings to new off-site locations.

Review Results: Ohio Christian University was found to be in compliance with the Chancellor’s standards except in the area of the general education curriculum. The university is in the process of revising its curriculum to meet the Chancellor’s standards and will provide a progress report to the Chancellor’s staff by August 31, 2009 to demonstrate full compliance with state standards for general education.

Recommendation to the Chancellor: Ohio Christian University meets the Chancellor’s standards, and the staff recommend continued institutional authorization through December 31, 2017, to coincide with the university’s next accreditation review with the Association of Biblical Higher Education (ABHE). Authorization will continue, contingent upon continuing accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (to be reviewed in 2010) and
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End of Comment Period: May 11, 2009
No Comments Received, Recommend Approval

Approved:

[Signature]

Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor

Date: 6/26/09