

## BACKGROUND AND RECOMMENDATION

### Wittenberg University Institutional Reauthorization

#### RECOMMENDATION

Wittenberg University meets the Chancellor's standards and the staff recommends continued institutional authorization through December 31, 2017, to coincide with the university's next accreditation review with the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools). Wittenberg University is required to submit a progress report to the Higher Learning Commission by December 2010. The progress report will focus on student enrollment, assessment of student learning (particularly in meeting general education goals) and the use of data for continuous institutional improvement. A copy of the progress report and HLC response must be provided to the Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents. Authorization will continue, contingent upon continuing accreditation from HLC. 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 the Higher Learning Commission.

**Profile:** Wittenberg University was established in 1844 and is connected with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. It is a private nonprofit liberal arts university, primarily focused on undergraduate education, with an enrollment of approximately 2000 students. Wittenberg University is located in Springfield, Ohio.

**Accreditation/Authorization:** the High Learning Commission of the North Central Association currently accredits Wittenberg University. Wittenberg University also holds specialized accreditation for specific programs.

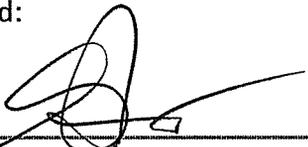
**Program Offerings:** Wittenberg University primarily offers degrees at the undergraduate level (Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science) and one graduate degree, the Master of Arts in Education.

**Institutional Changes:** Wittenberg University has new presidential leadership since the last reauthorization review. President Mark Erickson became the 13<sup>th</sup> president on July 1, 2005. Since the last reauthorization review, Wittenberg University completed a \$75 million capital campaign and has developed a new enrollment plan.

**Recommendation to the Chancellor:** Wittenberg University meets the Chancellor's standards. The Regents' staff recommends continued institutional authorization through December 31, 2017 to coincide with the university's next accreditation review with HLC. Wittenberg University is required to submit a progress report to HLC by December 2010 on student enrollment, assessment of student learning (particularly in meeting general education goals) and the use of data for continuous institutional

improvement. A copy of the progress report and HLC response must be provided to the Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents. Authorization will continue, contingent upon continuing accreditation from HLC. 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 the Higher Learning Commission.

End of Comment Period: May 19, 2009  
No Comments Received, Recommend Approval

Approved:		
Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor		Date

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