BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

Ashland University

RECOMMENDATION

Ashland University meets the Chancellor's standards, and the staff recommend continued institutional authorization through December 31, 2019, to coincide with the university's next accreditation reaffirmation review with the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (HLC). Authorization will continue, contingent upon continuing accreditation from HLC. The Chancellor may, in his judgment, withdraw authorization or require additional review if the university fails to continue to meet the Chancellor's standards for authorization or is sanctioned by the Higher Learning Commission.

Profile: Ashland University, located in Ashland, Ohio, is an independent institution affiliated with the Brethren Church. Originally established in 1878, the university today serves nearly 3,500 students and challenges them "to develop intellectually and ethically, to seek wisdom and justice, and to prepare for the rigors of living and working as citizens aware of their global responsibilities."

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

Program Offerings: Ashland University offers the following degrees: Associate of Arts, Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Master of American History and Government, Master of Business Administration, Master of Education, Master of Fine Arts, and Doctor of Education. In addition, Master of Arts, Master of Divinity, and Doctor of Ministry degrees are offered through Ashland Theological Seminary, a graduate division of the university.

Institutional Changes: Since the university's last reauthorization review, the institution has had a change in the presidency, expanded its program offerings to new delivery sites and options, and expanded certain program offerings while reducing others to better align resources with student, community, and industry needs.

Recommendation to the Chancellor: Ashland University meets the Chancellor's standards, and the staff recommend continued institutional authorization through December 31, 2019, to coincide with the university's next accreditation reaffirmation review with the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Authorization will continue, contingent upon continuing accreditation from HLC. The Chancellor may, in his judgment, withdraw authorization or require additional review 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: October 5, 2009
No Comments Received, Recommend Approval

APPROVED	
Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor	10/5/09 Date

mlc