

## BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

### Chancellor University

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION

Chancellor University meets the Chancellor's standards, and the review team recommends provisional authorization for the proposed degree programs. Provisional authorization will continue through December 31, 2012, contingent upon continuing accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, continuing recognition from the State Board of Career 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 provisional authorization if, in the Chancellor's judgment, the progress reports do not demonstrate satisfactory progress in any area. Progress reports are due by September 1, 2010, September 1, 2011, and September 1, 2012. A follow-up review will be performed by December 31, 2012 to determine continued authorization of the programs.

**Profile:** Chancellor University is a co-educational, for-profit institution, which was formerly known as David N. Myers University. Earlier this decade, the university experienced severe financial difficulties. In December of 2007, the Court of Common Pleas of Cuyahoga County, Ohio appointed a Special Master who was empowered, by court order, to take possession of all of the assets of the university and to operate or sell the institution for the benefit of its creditors and interest holders. In May of 2008, the university was sold to Myers 160, LLC with a new management group led by Myers University System, LLC. The university's name was officially changed to Chancellor University in September of 2008.

Today Chancellor University offers associate's, bachelor's and master's degrees at its main campus in Cleveland, Ohio and academic learning centers in Rocky River, Cleveland Heights and Mentor, Ohio. The institution asserts its commitment to addressing the economic and educational needs of Northeast Ohio and states that it remains dedicated to providing programs for working adults and first generation urban college students.

**Accreditation/Authorization:** Chancellor University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, but the Board of Trustees of the Commission placed the university on the sanction of Probation in October of 2008. A comprehensive, onsite evaluation of the university will take place in October of 2009, at which time "the institution must demonstrate it has ameliorated the concerns identified by the Commission's Board of Trustees".

The institution was first authorized by the Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents in 1969 and was scheduled to have a reauthorization review in 2007, but the reauthorization visit was postponed during the negotiations for the sale of the university. Once the change of ownership and status (not-for-profit to for-profit) was complete, it was determined that an institutional authorization visit would be conducted to determine continued authorization of the institution and its degree programs.

**Program Information:** Chancellor University is seeking authorization for the following programs:

- Associate of Arts
- Associate of Science with specializations in
  - Accounting
  - Corporate Management
  - Criminal Justice
  - Paralegal
  - Public Administration
- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Science with specializations in
  - Criminal Justice
  - Health Services Management
  - Information Technology
  - Paralegal Education
  - Public Administration
- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with specializations in
  - Accounting
  - Corporate Management
  - Finance
  - Forensic Accounting
  - Human Resources Management
  - Industrial Management
  - Management Information Systems
  - Marketing
  - Small Business Entrepreneurship
  - Sports Management
- Masters of Business Administration
- Masters of Management

**Review Results:** The external review team noted several strengths during the review, including: an attractive, accessible and appropriately equipped mid-town campus; state-of-the art distance education, including strong faculty training and development programs; the institution's commitment to diversity amongst its student body; the "one-stop process" used to provide student services efficiently and effectively; a detailed program review process that allows for input from multiple sources; and a tuition assistance program available to faculty members and their families.

The team also noted several areas of non compliance with the Chancellor's standards and recommended that the institution: provide an update on the strategic planning process; clarify the student support services offered at the off-campus sites; provide updated faculty matrices to demonstrate that the credentials of full-time and part-time faculty members meet the Chancellor's standards; develop a grievance policy for faculty members who are less than full-time; use standardized math and English placement tests to identify students in need of developmental courses; continue to offer developmental math and English courses for the on-ground students; create online courses at the developmental level; develop comprehensive graduate policies; develop a capital equipment replacement and funding plan; create a library staffing plan to accommodate increases in enrollment both on-ground and online; provide an annual library budget; and develop policies and procedures to guide faculty members in providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities.

The institution responded appropriately to the recommendations of the team's report by demonstrating how the recommendations were accepted and integrated into the proposed programs, 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:** Chancellor University meets the Chancellor's standards, and the review team recommends provisional authorization for the proposed degree programs. Provisional authorization will continue through December 31, 2012, contingent upon continuing accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, continuing recognition from the State Board of Career 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 provisional authorization if, in the Chancellor's judgment, the progress reports do not demonstrate satisfactory progress in any area. Progress reports are due by September 1, 2010, September 1, 2011, and September 1, 2012. A follow-up review will be performed by December 31, 2012 to determine continued authorization of the programs.

End of Comment Period: October 12, 2009  
No Comments Received, Recommend Approval

APPROVED	
	10/20/09
Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor	Date

*m/c*