

BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

Union Institute & University

Bachelor of Arts

Bachelor of Science

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY/RECOMMENDATION

Union Institute & University meets Regents' standards for baccalaureate degree programs. There were no serious concerns raised in the review. Staff recommend continued authorization of the programs through December 31, 2010, to coincide with the university's next regional accreditation review. Annual progress reports are to be submitted June 30, 2009 and 2010.

Profile: Union Institute & University was established in 1964 as the Union for Research and Experimentation in Higher Education, a consortium of ten liberal arts colleges. In 1969, the consortium changed its name to the Union for Experimental Colleges and Universities (UECU); two-years later the institution obtained authorization from the Ohio Board of Regents. During the late seventies, the consortium disbanded and UECU became a stand alone institution. In 1989, the institution changed its name to the Union Institute; in 2002, the institution changed its name again to Union Institute & University. The main administrative campus is located in Cincinnati, Ohio, and operates academic centers in California, Florida, and Vermont. In addition to the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees, the university also offers a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice (BACJ), Doctor of Education (Ed.D.), Doctor of Psychology (Psy.D.), and Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Studies degree.

Accreditation/Authorization: Union Institute & University is regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. In addition, the university has been continuously authorized by the Ohio Board of Regents since 1971.

Program Information: The Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees are designed to be completed in a blended and/or online format. Students enrolled in the Bachelor of Science degree program can choose from a variety of majors, including business, criminal justice, education, human services, psychology, and public administration. Students enrolled in the Bachelor of Arts degree program may major in Liberal Studies.

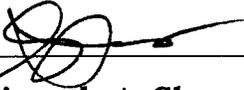
Review Results: The Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees were originally authorized in 1971. A reauthorization review of all the institution's programs was to occur earlier this decade. However, the staff and institution agreed to defer the review of the baccalaureate degrees until after the review of the Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Studies degree program. Subsequent reviews of the Ph.D. program, and new program reviews for the Ed.D., Psy.D., and BACJ degrees furthered delayed the review of the baccalaureate degrees.

The review team found no serious concerns in the review. The team did request additional information to ensure consistency among the university's main campus and academic centers, to which the institution appropriately responded. Progress reports will be submitted through the institution's next institutional reauthorization review to provide program updates.

Recommendation to the Chancellor: Union Institute & University meets Regents' standards for baccalaureate degree programs. There were no serious concerns raised in the review. Staff recommend continued authorization of the programs through December 31, 2010, to coincide with the university's next regional accreditation review. Annual progress reports are to be submitted June 30, 2009 and 2010.

End of Comment Period: September 12, 2008
No Comments Received, Recommend Approval

Approved:



Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor

9/22/08

Date