

July 18, 2024

Dr. James Hwang
President
Logos Evangelical Seminary
9358 Telstar Avenue
El Monte, CA 91731

Dear President Hwang:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning Logos Evangelical Seminary (LES) by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) at its meeting June 28, 2024. This action was taken after consideration of the report of the review team that conducted the Special Visit to Logos Evangelical Seminary March 6-8, 2024 using the 2013 Standards of Accreditation. The Commission also reviewed the institutional report and exhibits submitted by Logos Evangelical Seminary prior to the Special Visit and the institution's April 23, 2024 response to the team report. The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the visit with you and your colleague Jane Peng, Academic Dean. Your comments were very helpful in informing the Commission's deliberations. The date of this action constitutes the effective date of the institution's status with WSCUC.

Procedural History

Following submission of an Interim Report by LES in November 2020, WSCUC requested a Progress Report on November 1, 2021 and subsequently an updated Progress Report on November 1, 2022. Based on this series of interactions with WSCUC, a Special Visit was scheduled for spring 2024 to provide for more in-depth review.

Actions

1. Receive the Special Visit team report that focused on:
(1) Evidence of quality assurance processes for proposal, approval, and scheduling of academic programs; (2) Demonstration that direct measures of student learning are gathered, evaluated, and used during program reviews; (3) Evidence for how disaggregated data are used to improve student success; (4) Demonstration of intentional connection of enrollment targets with budgeting; and (5) Evidence that academic programs being taught online have gone through rigorous planning and approvals and have obtained WSCUC substantive change approval.
2. Issue a Formal Notice of Concern

3. Reschedule the next reaffirmation review with the Offsite Review in spring 2026 and the Accreditation Visit in fall 2026
4. Schedule a Special Visit in spring 2025 to address all requirements in this letter.
5. Schedule a Progress Report due October 1, 2024 to address: a) progress on substantive change approvals to offer programs via distance education; and b) verification that no student is enrolled in 50% or more of their total courses online unless that program is approved by WSCUC for distance education.

Notice of Concern

A Formal Notice of Concern provides notice to the institution that, while it currently meets WSCUC Standards, it is in danger of being found out of compliance with one or more Standards if current trends or findings continue. Institutions issued a Formal Notice of Concern are scheduled for a Special Visit. If the issues are not addressed, a sanction could be imposed as described in the 2013 Handbook of Accreditation. A Formal Notice of Concern is public information and will be posted on the WSCUC website.

Standard at Risk of Non-Compliance and Requiring a Response

Logos Evangelical Seminary is in danger of being found out of compliance with Standard 1, CFRs 1.6 and 1.8. The institution offered degree programs via remote instruction during the pandemic while temporary authorization from WSCUC and the US Department of Education for remote instruction was in place. Logos Evangelical Seminary must now ensure that programs offered 50% or more online have WSCUC substantive change distance education approval.

Areas for Development

The Commission also requires the institution to respond to the following areas for development:

1. Expand institutional expertise in: a) accreditation standards and program development protocols, and b) WSCUC substantive change requirements for distance education. (CFRs 1.8, 2.1, and 4.1)
2. Create consistent and comprehensive systems for regular program review and learning outcomes assessment processes that include gathering and utilizing student learning outcomes data and producing clearly documented written reports. (CFRs 2.6 and 2.7)
3. Establish sustained evidence-based and participatory quality assurance processes and decision-making processes for the President's Council, academic activities, student services, and collaborative activities related to strategic planning and teaching and learning activities. (CFRs 4.3, 4.4, and 4.6)
4. Develop and implement an approach to data collection, analysis, assessment, and use through integrated and consistent systems of data input, access, and reporting across the campus community. (CFR 4.2)

Next Steps

In accordance with Commission policy, a copy of this letter is being sent to the chair of Logos Evangelical Seminary's governing board. The Commission expects that the team report and this action letter will be posted in a readily accessible location on the Logos Evangelical Seminary's website and widely distributed throughout the institution to promote further engagement and improvement and to support the institution's response to the specific issues identified in these documents. The team report and the Commission's action letter will also be posted on the WSCUC website. If the institution wishes to respond to the Commission action on its own website, WSCUC will post a link to that response on the WSCUC website.

Finally, the Commission wishes to express its appreciation for the extensive work that Logos Evangelical Seminary undertook in preparing for and supporting this accreditation review. WSCUC is committed to an accreditation process that adds value to institutions while contributing to public accountability, and we thank you for your continued support of this process. Please contact me if you have any questions about this letter or the action of the Commission.

Sincerely,



Jamienne S. Studley
President

JSS/so

Cc: Tracy Poon Tambascia, Commission Chair
Jane Peng, ALO
Sonny Gan, Board Chair
Members of the Accreditation Visit Team
Susan Opp, Vice President