



January 19, 2016

Dr. John M. Rudley
President
Texas Southern University
3100 Cleburne Street; HH 220
Houston, TX 77004

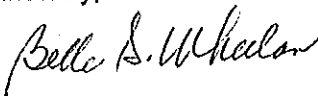
Dear Dr. Rudley:

The following action regarding your institution was taken by the Board of Trustees of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges during its meeting held on December 6, 2015:

The SACSCOC Board of Trustees approved the substantive change following the review of the prospectus for the 24 credit hour L.L.M. in Immigration Law.

We appreciate your continued support of the activities of SACS Commission on Colleges. If you have questions, please contact the staff member assigned to your institution.

Sincerely,



Belle S. Wheelan, Ph.D.
President

BSW:kif

cc: Dr. Steven M. Sheeley, Vice President, SACSCOC

**Texas Southern University
Thurgood Marshall School of Law
L.L.M. approval by SACSSOC**

At its December meeting, the Board of Trustees of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges approved the Thurgood Marshall School of Law's new LLM degree in immigration law requiring 24 semester credit hours. Twenty four semester credit hours is the standard for LLM programs across the country. SACSCOC, the University's regional accreditor, had requested additional information for the University on the degree proposal because Core Requirement 2.7.1 (Program Length) of the *Principles of Accreditation* which requires masters programs to be at least 30 semester credit hours or the equivalent. The University was asked to prove that the advanced nature of the degree which will admit only applicants who have earned a JD or equivalent means the degree itself will require graduates to have the skills and training sufficient to meet that standard. The University's submission satisfied the Commission's concerns, and it granted the University permission to offer the degree. Please see the attached announcement, posted on the SACSCOC website, which confirms the decision.

<http://sacscoc.org/2015decemberActionsandDisclosureStatements/15cractdecember.pdf>



***Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
Commission on Colleges***
Accreditation Actions taken by the SACSCOC Board of Trustees

December 6, 2015

At its meeting on December 6, 2015, the SACSCOC Board of Trustees took the following actions regarding the accreditation status of institutions. The list *does not include* the names of institutions required only to submit additional monitoring, referral, or special reports, unless the review resulted in a negative or an adverse action.

The Board reaffirmed the accreditation of the following institutions:

Amridge University, Montgomery, Alabama
Asbury Theological Seminary, Wilmore, Kentucky
Ave Maria University, Ave Maria, Florida
Blue Mountain College, Blue Mountain, Mississippi
Catawba College, Salisbury, North Carolina
Coker College, Hartsville, South Carolina
Everglades University, Boca Raton, Florida
Florida Gulf Coast University, Fort Myers, Florida
Florida Institute of Technology, Melbourne, Florida
Fundación Universidad de las Américas—Puebla, Puebla, Mexico
Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia
Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, Georgia
Lee University, Cleveland, Tennessee
Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, New Orleans, Louisiana
(Includes approval of the alternative approach to compliance with CR 2.7.4)
Louisiana State University in Shreveport, Shreveport, Louisiana
Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, Louisiana
Marine Corps University, Quantico, Virginia
Mercer University, Macon, Georgia
Midway University, Midway, Kentucky
Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida
Southeastern Louisiana University, Hammond, Louisiana
Sullivan University, Louisville, Kentucky
Texas A & M International University, Laredo, Texas
Texas A & M University-Kingsville, Kingsville, Texas
Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas
Union College, Barbourville, Kentucky
The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama

The University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, Alabama
University of the Incarnate Word, San Antonio, Texas
The University of Memphis, Memphis, Tennessee
University of New Orleans, New Orleans, Louisiana
University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida
University of St. Thomas, Houston, Texas
The University of Tampa, Tampa, Florida
The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee
University of West Florida, Pensacola, Florida
Warren Wilson College, Asheville, North Carolina
Wesleyan College, Macon, Georgia
Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Kentucky

The Board reaffirmed the accreditation of the following institutions and removed them from Probation:

Erskine College, Due West, South Carolina
Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta, Georgia

The Board granted initial accreditation as a separate entity to the following institution:
Texas Southmost College, Brownsville, Texas (Level I)

The Board granted initial accreditation to the following institution:
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler, Tyler, Texas (Level III)

The Board accredited the following member institutions at a new or a more advanced degree level:

Adventist University of Health Sciences, Orlando, Florida
Moved from Level III to Level V offering the Doctor of Physical Therapy
(Effective: May 2016)
Concordia University Texas, Austin, Texas
Moved from Level III to Level V offering the Doctorate in Education
(Effective: August 2016)
Flagler College, St. Augustine, Florida
Moved from Level II to Level III offering the Master in Education of the Deaf and
Hard of Hearing (Effective: August 2016)
Houston Baptist University, Houston, Texas
Moved from Level III to Level V offering the Doctor of Education in Executive
Educational Leadership (Effective: Fall 2016)
Middle Georgia State University, Macon, Georgia
Moved from Level II to Level III offering the Master of Science in Information
Technology and the Master of Science in Nursing (Effective: January 2016)
New College of Florida, Sarasota, Florida
Moved from Level II to Level III offering the Master in Data Science
(Effective: February 2016)
Tallahassee Community College, Tallahassee, Florida
Moved from Level I to Level II offering the Bachelor of Science in Nursing
(Effective: March 2016)

Welch College, Nashville, Tennessee

Moved from Level II to Level III offering the Master of Arts in Theology and Ministry (*Effective: February 2016*)

The Board approved the following substantive changes:

Alabama Community College System, Montgomery, Alabama

Approved a change in governance for the following institutions moving from the Alabama State Board of Education to the Alabama Community College System: Alabama Southern Community College, Monroeville; Beville State Community College, Jasper; Bishop State Community College, Mobile; Calhoun Community College, Tanner; Central Alabama Community College, Alexander City; Chattahoochee Valley Community College, Phenix City; Enterprise State Community College, Enterprise; Gadsden State Community College, Gadsden; George C. Wallace Community College, Dothan; George Corley Wallace State Community College (Wallace Community College Selma), Selma; H. Councill Trenholm State Community College, Montgomery; J.F. Drake State Community & Technical College, Huntsville; James H. Faulkner State Community College, Bay Minette; Jefferson Davis Community College, Brewton; Jefferson State Community College, Birmingham; Lurleen B. Wallace Community College, Andalusia; Marion Military Institute, Marion; Northeast Alabama Community College, Rainsville; Northwest-Shoals Community College, Muscle Shoals; Shelton State Community College, Tuscaloosa; Snead State Community College, Boaz; Southern Union State Community College, Wadley; T.A. Lawson State Community College, Birmingham; and Wallace State Community College Hanceville, Hanceville.

Flagler College, St. Augustine, Florida

Approved to offer 50% or more of any approved programs through distance learning.

Regent University, Virginia Beach, Virginia

Approved the Master of Theology degree requiring 24 credit hours.

Texas Southern University, Houston, Texas

Approved the L.L.M. in Immigration Law requiring 24 credit hours.

The Board accepted the following institution's prospectus for an acquisition:

ECPI University, Virginia Beach, Virginia

Accepted the prospectus for the acquisition of a branch campus from Remington College (a non-SACSCOC accredited institution), Lake Mary, Florida, which includes its School of Nursing. (*Effective: June 2016*)

The Board approved the merger/consolidation of the following institutions:

Baton Rouge Community College, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Approved the merger/consolidation of Baton Rouge Community College and Capital Area Technical College (a non-SACSCOC accredited institution) to be called Baton Rouge Community College. (*Effective: December 2015*)

Georgia State University, Atlanta, Georgia

Approved the merger/consolidation of Georgia State University and Georgia Perimeter College. (*Effective: January 2016*)

The Board continued the accreditation of the following institutions after a Substantive Change Committee conducted an on-site review of a previously approved change:

- American College of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine, Houston, Texas
Reviewed membership at Level V offering the Doctor of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine.
- Blue Ridge Community College, Flat Rock, North Carolina
Reviewed two new North Carolina off-campus instructional sites: Brevard High School, Brevard, and Balfour Education Center, Hendersonville.
- Cabarrus College of Health Sciences, Concord, North Carolina
Reviewed membership at Level III offering the Master of Occupational Therapy.
- Cisco College, Cisco, Texas
Reviewed the following Texas off-campus instructional sites: Clyde High School, Clyde, and Region 14 Educational Service Center, Abilene.
- Dabney S. Lancaster Community College, Clifton Forge, Virginia
Reviewed the following Virginia off-campus instructional sites: Alleghany High School, Covington; James River High School, Buchanan; Parry McCluer High School, Buena Vista; and Rockbridge County High School, Lexington.
- East Georgia State College, Swainsboro, Georgia
Reviewed an off-campus instructional site at Augusta University's Summerville Campus, Augusta, Georgia.
- Eckerd College, St. Petersburg, Florida
Reviewed an off-campus instructional site at 1300 N. Westshore Boulevard, Tampa, Florida.
- ECPI University, Virginia Beach, Virginia
Reviewed a new branch campus located at 5234 Airport Road, Roanoke, Virginia.
- Everglades University, Boca Raton, Florida
Reviewed a new off-campus instructional site located at 5225 Memorial Highway, Tampa, Florida.
- Francis Marion University, Florence, South Carolina
Reviewed an off-campus instructional site at Trident Technical College, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina.
- Freed-Hardeman University, Henderson, Tennessee
Reviewed membership at Level V offering the Ed.D. in Instructional Leadership and of an off-campus instructional site at the Renaissance Center, Dickson, Tennessee.
- Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia
Reviewed a new off-campus instructional site in Shenzhen, Guangdong, China.
- Graduate Institute of Applied Linguistics, Dallas, Texas
Reviewed membership at Level II offering the Bachelor of Arts in International Service.
- Huston-Tillotson University, Austin, Texas
Reviewed membership at Level III offering the Master of Education in Educational Leadership with Principal Certification.
- Jefferson Community and Technical College, Louisville, Kentucky
Reviewed the following Kentucky off-campus instructional sites evaluated as part of the Fifth-Year Interim Report: Henry County High School, New Castle;

- Kentucky Manufacturing Career Center, Louisville; and Universal Woods, Louisville.
- Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte, North Carolina
Reviewed membership at Level III offering the Master of Social Work.
- Johnston Community College, Smithfield, North Carolina
Reviewed an off-campus instructional site at South Johnston High School, Four Oaks, North Carolina.
- Jones County Junior College, Ellisville, Mississippi
Reviewed an off-campus instructional site at the Wayne County Learning Center, Waynesboro, Mississippi.
- Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, Georgia
Reviewed the merger/consolidation of Kennesaw State University and Southern Polytechnic State University called Kennesaw State University.
- LeTourneau University, Longview, Texas
Reviewed the new Bachelor of Science in Nursing program.
- Liberty University, Lynchburg, Virginia
Reviewed the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine.
- Limestone College, Gaffney, South Carolina
Reviewed the following South Carolina off-campus instructional sites evaluated as part of the Fifth-Year Interim Report: Kalmia Plaza, Aiken, and Victor Avenue Extension, Greer.
- Lincoln Memorial University, Harrogate, Tennessee
Reviewed the following Tennessee off-campus instructional sites evaluated as part of the Fifth-Year Interim Report: Cedar Bluff Teaching Site, Knoxville, and Chattanooga State Community College, Chattanooga.
- Lindsey Wilson College, Columbia, Kentucky
Reviewed membership at Level V offering the Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision.
- Louisiana State University and A&M College, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Reviewed the merger/consolidation of Louisiana State University and A&M College and the LSU Paul M. Hebert Law School.
- Maysville Community & Technical College, Maysville, Kentucky
Reviewed the following Kentucky off-campus instructional sites evaluated as part of the institution's Fifth-Year Interim Report: Maysville Institute of Culinary Arts, Maysville; Bath County High School, Owningsville; Mason County Area Technology Center, Maysville; and The Rowan Campus Downtown Extension, Morehead.
- Northwestern State University of Louisiana, Natchitoches, Louisiana
Reviewed membership at Level V offering the Doctor of Nursing Practice.
- Notre Dame Seminary, New Orleans, Louisiana
Reviewed membership at Level II offering the Bachelor of Philosophy degree.
- Our Lady of Holy Cross College, New Orleans, Louisiana
Reviewed an off-campus instructional site: the Catholic Diocese of Baton Rouge.
- Pasco-Hernando State College, New Port Richey, Florida
Reviewed membership at Level II offering the Bachelor of Applied Science in Supervision and Management and the Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

Piedmont Virginia Community College, Charlottesville, Virginia

Reviewed the following Virginia off-campus instructional sites evaluated as part of the Fifth-Year Interim Report: Jefferson School City Center, Charlottesville; Eugene Giuseppe Center, Stanardsville; Albemarle High School, Charlottesville; Charlottesville Albemarle Technical Education Center, Charlottesville; and Western Albemarle High School, Crozet.

Regent University, Virginia Beach, Virginia

Reviewed the following Virginia off-campus instructional sites evaluated as part of the Fifth-Year Interim Report: Portsmouth Christian School, Portsmouth, and Richmond Academy, Richmond.

Roanoke-Chowan Community College, Ahoskie, North Carolina

Reviewed the following North Carolina off-campus instructional sites: Hertford County High School, Ahoskie, and Northhampton County High School, Conway.

South Piedmont Community College, Polkton, North Carolina

Reviewed two substantive changes: (1) the new off-campus instructional site at the Central Academy of Technology and Arts, Monroe, North Carolina and (2) the new Associate in Applied Science degree in Automotive Systems Technology program.

Troy University, Troy, Alabama

Reviewed the following off-campus instructional site evaluated as part of the Fifth-Year Interim Report: Osan Air Base Education Center, Osan, Korea.

The University of Dallas, Irving, Texas

Reviewed the Doctor of Business Administration.

The Board removed the following institution from Warning:

Allen University, Columbia, South Carolina

The Board removed the following institutions from Probation:

Louisiana College, Pineville, Louisiana

Norfolk State University, Norfolk, Virginia

SANCTIONS AND OTHER NEGATIVE ACTIONS

For further information regarding SACSCOC Board sanctions, see the Commission's policy "Sanctions, Denial of Reaffirmation, and Removal from Membership." Also, for the specific standard or requirement cited below, refer to SACSCOC's Principles of Accreditation: Foundations for Quality Enhancement. Both documents can be found on the Commission's website at <http://www.sacscoc.org>.

The Board denied membership at a more advanced degree level for the following institution:

Shaw University, Raleigh, North Carolina

Denied approval of membership at Level V to offer the Doctor of Ministry. The institution did not provide an acceptable plan and supporting documentation to ensure that it has the capability to comply with the following standards as they relate to the substantive change: Comprehensive Standard 3.4.1 (Academic program approval), Comprehensive Standard 3.4.5 (Academic policies), and Comprehensive Standard 3.6.4 (Post-baccalaureate program requirements) of the *Principles of Accreditation*.

The Board denied approval of substantive change for the following institutions:

Alabama State University, Montgomery, Alabama

Denied approval of the Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering. The institution did not provide an acceptable plan and supporting documentation to ensure that it has the capability to comply with the following standard as it relates to the substantive change: Comprehensive Standard 3.10.1 (Financial stability) of the *Principles of Accreditation*.

Miami International University of Art & Design, Miami, Florida

Denied approval of the acquisition of the following branch campuses that are currently part of the accreditation of South University: The Art Institute of Charlotte, The Art Institute of Dallas, The Art Institute of Fort Worth, and the Art Institute of Raleigh-Durham. The institution did not provide an acceptable plan and supporting documentation to ensure that it has the capability to comply with the following standards as they relate to the substantive change: Core Requirement 2.11.1 (Financial resources and stability) and Comprehensive Standard 3.11.1 (Control of physical resources) of the *Principles of Accreditation*.

The Board placed the following institutions on Warning:

Bennett College for Women, Greensboro, North Carolina

For 12 months for failure to comply with Comprehensive Standard 3.10.1 (Financial stability) of the *Principles of Accreditation*.

Galen College of Nursing, Louisville, Kentucky

For six months for failure to comply with Core Requirement 2.8 (Faculty) of the *Principles of Accreditation*, following review of membership at Level II offering the Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

Saint Augustine's University, Raleigh, North Carolina

For 12 months for failure to comply with Core Requirement 2.11.1 (Financial resources and stability), Comprehensive Standard 3.10.1 (Financial stability), and Comprehensive Standard 3.10.3 (Control of finances) of the *Principles of Accreditation*.

Southwestern Christian College, Terrell, Texas

For 12 months for failure to comply with Core Requirement 2.8 (Faculty), Comprehensive Standard 3.3.1.1 (Institutional Effectiveness: educational programs, to include student learning outcomes), Comprehensive Standard 3.3.2 (Quality Enhancement Plan), and Federal Requirement 4.9 (Definition of credit hours) of the *Principles of Accreditation*.

The Board continued Warning for the following institutions:

The Art Institute of Atlanta, Atlanta, Georgia

For 12 months for failure to comply with Core Requirement 2.11.1 (Financial resources and stability), Comprehensive Standard 3.10.1 (Financial stability), and Comprehensive Standard 3.10.3 (Control of finances) of the *Principles of Accreditation*.

Bethel University, McKenzie, Tennessee

For 12 months for failure to comply with Comprehensive Standard 3.2.8 (Qualified administrative/academic officers), Comprehensive Standard 3.3.1.1

(Institutional Effectiveness: educational programs, to include student learning outcomes), Federal Requirement 4.1 (Student achievement), and Federal Requirement 4.9 (Definition of credit hours) of the *Principles of Accreditation*.

Georgetown College, Georgetown, Kentucky

For six months for failure to comply with Core Requirement 2.11.1 (Financial resources and stability) and Comprehensive Standard 3.10.1 (Financial stability) of the *Principles of Accreditation*.

Miami International University of Art and Design, Miami, Florida

For 12 months for failure to comply with Core Requirement 2.11.1 (Financial resources and stability), Comprehensive Standard 3.10.1 (Financial stability), and Comprehensive Standard 3.10.3 (Control of finances) of the *Principles of Accreditation*.

South University, Savannah, Georgia

For 12 months for failure to comply with Core Requirement 2.11.1 (Financial resources and stability), Comprehensive Standard 3.10.1 (Financial stability), and Comprehensive Standard 3.10.3 (Control of finances) of the *Principles of Accreditation*.

Virginia State University, Petersburg, Virginia

For six months for failure to comply with Comprehensive Standard 3.2.13 (Institution-related entities), Comprehensive Standard 3.10.3 (Control of finances), Comprehensive Standard 3.10.4 (Control of sponsored research/external funds), and Comprehensive Standard 3.11.1 (Control of physical resources) of the *Principles of Accreditation*. The Committee authorized a Special Committee to visit the institution.

The Board denied reaffirmation, continued in accreditation, and continued the following institution on Warning:

The Art Institute of Houston, Houston, Texas

For 12 months for failure to comply with Core Requirement 2.11.1 (Financial resources and stability), Comprehensive Standard 3.10.1 (Financial stability), Comprehensive Standard 3.10.3 (Control of finances), and Comprehensive Standard 3.3.2 (Quality Enhancement Plan) of the *Principles of Accreditation*.

The Board continued accreditation for good cause and placed the following institution on Probation:

The University of Tennessee at Martin, Martin, Tennessee

For 12 months for failure to comply with Comprehensive Standard 3.3.1.1 (Institutional Effectiveness: educational programs, to include student learning outcomes), Comprehensive Standard 3.3.1.2 (Institutional Effectiveness: administrative support services), Comprehensive Standard 3.3.1.4 (Institutional Effectiveness: research), Comprehensive Standard 3.3.1.5 (Institutional Effectiveness: community/public service within its mission), and Comprehensive Standard 3.5.1 (General education competencies) of the *Principles of Accreditation*. The Committee authorized a Special Committee to visit the institution.