

## Abstracted Summary of Final Actions: July-October 2020

Pursuant to §602.26 of Title 34 of U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, this report abstracts from all final actions taken recently by The Commission on Accrediting of The Association of Theological Schools (COAATS) concerning substantive changes only for schools in the US (Canadian schools are not included in this report). The membership of COAATS has adopted new [Standards of Accreditation](#) and [Policies and Procedures](#), effective July 1, 2020. Any older references would correspond to the [pre-2020 accrediting documents](#) and are currently subject to the Board-approved implementation procedures [posted here](#). Information on individual schools can be found by accessing our [member school list](#). Past abstracts can be found [here](#).

At its teleconference meeting September 25, 2020, a subcommittee of the COAATS Board of Commissioners voted on the below actions, with subsequent ratification by the full Board as needed, effective **10/02/2020**, unless otherwise noted.

### ACTION(S) CONCERNING PERIOD OF ACCREDITATION

#### **Alliance Theological Seminary - New York, NY**

To *postpone* the next scheduled comprehensive evaluation visit to fall 2021, due to the COVID-19 health crisis limiting travel and group gatherings, with adjustment to the period of accreditation as necessary [i.e., to expire on March 31, 2022]—per [guidelines approved by the Board of Commissioners on June 1, 2020](#). (Commission staff action on behalf of the Board of Commissioners)

#### **Augustine Institute - Greenwood Village, CO**

To *postpone* the next scheduled comprehensive evaluation visit to spring 2021, due to the COVID-19 health crisis limiting travel and group gatherings, with adjustment to the period of accreditation as necessary [i.e., to expire on July 31, 2021]—per [guidelines approved by the Board of Commissioners on June 1, 2020](#). (Commission staff action on behalf of the Board of Commissioners)

#### **Bexley Hall Seabury-Western Theological Seminary Federation, Inc. - Chicago, IL**

To *postpone* the next scheduled comprehensive evaluation visit to fall 2022, with adjustment to the period of accreditation as necessary [i.e., to expire on March 31, 2023]. (Commission staff action 8/26/2020 on behalf of the Board of Commissioners)

#### **Drew University Theological School - Madison, NJ**

To *postpone* the next scheduled comprehensive evaluation visit to fall 2021, with adjustment to the period of accreditation as necessary [i.e., to expire on March 31, 2022]. (Commission staff action 10/06/2020 on behalf of the Board of Commissioners)

#### **Interdenominational Theological Center - Atlanta, GA**

To *postpone* the next scheduled comprehensive evaluation visit to fall 2021, with adjustment to the period of accreditation as necessary [i.e., to expire on March 31, 2022]. (Commission staff action 7/23/2020 on behalf of the Board of Commissioners)

#### **International Theological Seminary - West Covina, CA**

To *postpone* the next scheduled comprehensive evaluation visit to fall 2022, with adjustment to the period of accreditation as necessary [i.e., to expire on March 31, 2023]. (Commission staff action 10/06/2020 on behalf of the Board of Commissioners)

#### **Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University - Berkeley, CA**

To *postpone* the next scheduled comprehensive evaluation visit to fall 2021, with adjustment to the period of accreditation as necessary [i.e., to expire on March 31, 2022]. (Commission staff action 8/10/2020 on behalf of the Board of Commissioners)

#### **Loyola Marymount University Department of Theological Studies - Los Angeles, CA**

To *postpone* the next scheduled comprehensive evaluation visit to fall 2021, due to the COVID-19 health crisis limiting travel and group gatherings, with adjustment to the period of accreditation as

necessary [i.e., to expire on March 31, 2022]—per [guidelines approved by the Board of Commissioners on June 1, 2020](#). (*Commission staff action on behalf of the Board of Commissioners*)

**Multnomah Biblical Seminary of Multnomah University - Portland, OR**

To *postpone* the next scheduled comprehensive evaluation visit to spring 2021, due to the COVID-19 health crisis limiting travel and group gatherings, with adjustment to the period of accreditation as necessary [i.e., to expire on July 31, 2021]—per [guidelines approved by the Board of Commissioners on June 1, 2020](#). (*Commission staff action on behalf of the Board of Commissioners*)

**New Brunswick Theological Seminary - New Brunswick, NJ**

To *postpone* the next scheduled comprehensive evaluation visit to spring 2022, with adjustment to the period of accreditation as necessary [i.e., to expire on July 31, 2022]. (*Commission staff action 9/09/2020 on behalf of the Board of Commissioners*)

**St. Mary's Seminary and University - Baltimore, MD**

To *postpone* the next scheduled comprehensive evaluation visit to fall 2021, with adjustment to the period of accreditation as necessary [i.e., to expire on March 31, 2022]. (*Commission staff action 8/10/2020 on behalf of the Board of Commissioners*)

**St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary - Crestwood, NY**

To *postpone* the next scheduled comprehensive evaluation visit to spring 2021, due to the COVID-19 health crisis limiting travel and group gatherings, with adjustment to the period of accreditation as necessary [i.e., to expire on July 31, 2021]—per [guidelines approved by the Board of Commissioners on June 1, 2020](#). (*Commission staff action on behalf of the Board of Commissioners*)

**ACTION(S) CONCERNING DEGREE-RELATED SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE**

**Kearley Graduate School of Theology of Faulkner University - Montgomery, AL**

To approve the Master of Theology (ThM) degree program (Standard 4.10-12).

**ACTION(S) CONCERNING NEW/EXPANDING EXTENSION SITE OFFERING AT LEAST HALF A DEGREE**

**Central Baptist Theological Seminary - Shawnee, KS**

1. To grant approval for an additional location at Georgia Gwinnett College (1000 University Center Ln, Lawrenceville, GA 30043) to offer the complete MDiv.
2. To *exempt* the additional location from a focused evaluation visit since the school meets the exemption criteria described in *Policies and Procedures* III.D.4.
3. To grant approval for an additional location at Austin Korean Presbyterian Church (12311 Natures Bend, Austin, TX 78757) to offer the complete MDiv. [*Temporary authorization granted by staff: 9/04/2020*]
4. To *exempt* the additional location from a focused evaluation visit since the school meets the exemption criteria described in *Policies and Procedures* III.D.4.

**ACTION(S) CONCERNING CLOSING/RELOCATING EXTENSION SITE OFFERING AT LEAST HALF A DEGREE**

**Ashland Theological Seminary - Ashland, OH**

1. To approve the closing of the complete-degree site located at Detroit Center (24901 Northwestern Highway, Suite 600, Southfield, MI 48075), where the Master of Divinity, Master of Arts in Christian Ministries, and Master of Arts in Counseling degree programs had been offered. [*Temporary authorization granted by staff: 5/04/2020*]
2. To approve the school's teach-out plan since it meets the criteria for evaluating teach-out plans described in *Policies and Procedures*, III.L.2.

**Central Baptist Theological Seminary - Shawnee, KS**

5. To grant approval for the relocation of the school's previously approved Dallas area location from 1615 W Belt Line Rd, Carrollton, TX 75006 to 1017 Erie St, Carrollton, TX 75006 (Disciple Baptist Church), effective September 28, 2020. [*Temporary authorization granted by staff: 9/25/2020*]

6. To *exempt* the additional location from a focused evaluation visit since the school meets the exemption criteria described in *Policies and Procedures III.D.4*.
7. To approve the school's teach-out plan since it meets the criteria for evaluating teach-out plans described in *Policies and Procedures III.L.2*.
8. To grant approval for the relocation of the school's previously approved Seattle area location *from* 30333 Pacific Hwy S, Federal Way, WA 98003 *to* 2400 S 240th St, Des Moines, WA 98198 (Highline College), effective September 24, 2020. [*Temporary authorization granted by staff: 9/04/2020*]
9. To *exempt* the additional location from a focused evaluation visit since the seminary meets the exemption criteria described in *Policies and Procedures III.D.4*.
10. To approve the school's teach-out plan since it meets the criteria for evaluating teach-out plans described in *Policies and Procedures III.L.2*.

## **ACTION(S) CONCERNING CHANGE OF INSTITUTION NAME OR MAIN CAMPUS LOCATION**

### **American Baptist Seminary of the West - Berkeley, CA**

To acknowledge notification regarding change in institutional name, *from* American Baptist Seminary of the West *to* **Berkeley School of Theology**, effective July 1, 2020. (*Commission staff action 7/03/2020 on behalf of the Board of Commissioners*)

### **Starr King School for the Ministry - Berkeley, CA**

1. To approve the relocation of the school's main campus *from* 2441 Le Conte Ave, Berkeley, CA 94709 *to* 5000 MacArthur Blvd, Oakland, CA 94613, on the campus of Mills College (a distance of 10 miles away), effective October 1, 2020. [*Temporary authorization granted by staff: 8/18/2020*]
2. To authorize a focused evaluation visit to the new campus location, *delaying* this visit *from* spring 2021 *to* fall 2021, due to COVID-19.
3. To approve the school's teach-out plan since it meets the criteria for evaluating teach-out plans described in the *Policies and Procedures, III.L.2*, i.e., that all affected students have been notified and all of them plan to continue at the new location only ten miles away.

*Report prepared: 10/26/2020*

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