

Abstracted Summary of Final Actions for August and September 2017

Pursuant to §602.26 of Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations, the present report abstracts substantive changes from all final actions taken recently by The Commission on Accrediting of The Association of Theological Schools (COAATS). Documentation referenced below can be found in the following [compendium of accrediting documents](#).

At its teleconference meeting on September 13, 2017, a Reader Panel of the Board of Commissioners of COAATS voted on the below actions, which were subsequently ratified, as needed, by the full Board of Commissioners—with an effective date of **September 13, 2017**, unless otherwise noted. (NB: no COAATS meeting in August 2017.)

ACTIONS RELATED TO NEW DEGREES

[Evangelical Theological Seminary](#) - Myerstown, PA

To approve the Master of Arts (Bible) as a Standard D (academic MA) degree program.

[Gateway Seminary](#) - Ontario, CA

To approve offering the complete Doctor of Ministry degree program at the school's Fremont site (38891 Mission Blvd., Fremont, CA 94536).

[Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary](#) - South Hamilton, MA

To grant approval to the seminary to offer also on its main campus in South Hamilton, MA, its Board-approved Master of Arts in Christian Leadership (MACL), a Standard B (professional MA) degree, which is now currently being offered only on its Charlotte, NC, campus.

[Lincoln Christian Seminary](#) - Lincoln, IL

To approve the Master of Arts in Formative Worship as a Standard B (professional MA) degree program.

ACTIONS RELATED TO EXTENSION SITES

[New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary](#) - New Orleans, LA

1. To grant approval to relocate the Jacksonville, FL, extension site *from* First Baptist Church (124 West Ashley Street, Jacksonville, FL 32202) *to* Florida Baptist Convention (6850 Belfort Oaks Place, Jacksonville, FL 32216). This site is approved to offer at least half of a degree but not a full degree for students pursuing the MDiv and other professional masters programs.
2. To exempt the site from a focused evaluation visit since it meets the exemption criteria described in the Board of Commissioners' *Policy Manual* (section III.A.1.e).

[Reformed Theological Seminary](#) - Jackson, MS

1. To grant approval to expand the existing complete-degree extension site located at Christ Evangelical Presbyterian Church (8300 Katy Freeway, Houston, TX, 77024-1092), to also offer the Master of Divinity (Standard A) degree program.
2. To exempt the site from a focused evaluation visit since it meets the exemption criteria described in the Board of Commissioners' *Policy Manual* (section III.A.1.e).

[Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary of Andrews University](#) - Berrien Springs, MI

1. To grant approval to offer the complete Master of Arts (Religion), a Standard D degree, at a *new*, complete-degree extension site located at Taiwan Adventist College (TAC), 39 Chung Wen Lang Yu Chih, Nantou County, Taiwan 55542, Republic of China.
2. To exempt the site from a focused evaluation visit since it meets the exemption criteria described in the Board of Commissioners' *Policy Manual* (section III.A.1.e).

[St. John's Seminary](#) - Brighton, MA

1. To grant approval to relocate the seminary's Theological Institute for the New Evangelization, through which the seminary offers the complete MTS and MA in Ministry degrees, *from* its current location (at 149 Washington St., Brighton, MA 02135, which is considered part of the school's main campus) *to* a new location at the Pastoral Center of the Archdiocese of Boston in nearby Braintree (at 66 Brooks Drive, Braintree, MA 02184)—effective fall 2017—where both degrees will continue to be offered.
2. To authorize a focused evaluation visit to this *new* complete degree-granting site, with that visit to be part of the school's next comprehensive evaluation visit scheduled for November 6-9, 2017.
3. To approve the school's teach-out plan, since it meets the criteria for evaluating teach-out plans described in the Board of Commissioners' *Policy Manual*, Appendix 5.

[Trinity Evangelical Divinity School of Trinity International University](#) - Deerfield, IL

1. To grant approval to *close* an approved complete-degree extension site on the campus of Christ Community Church at 14200 Kenneth Road, Leawood, KS 66224, effective immediately.
2. To approve the school's teach-out plan, since it meets the criteria for evaluating teach-out plans described in the Board of Commissioners' *Policy Manual*, Appendix 5.
3. To grant approval to relocate the extension site at Elmbrook Church at 777 S. Barker Road, Brookfield, WI 53045, *to* Eastbrook Church at 5353 N. Green Bay Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53209, where the complete Master of Arts (Theological Studies), a Standard D degree, may be earned.
4. To exempt the Milwaukee, WI site from a focused evaluation visit since it meets the exemption criteria described in the Board of Commissioners' *Policy Manual* (section III.A.1.e).
5. To approve the school's Brookfield, WI teach-out plan, since it meets the criteria for evaluating teach-out plans described in the Board of Commissioners' *Policy Manual*, Appendix 5.

[Winebrenner Theological Seminary](#) - Findlay, OH

1. To grant approval to *close* an approved complete-degree extension site located at 3583 Scotland Rd., PO Box 473, Scotland, PA 17254, where the Master of Divinity and Master of Arts in Practical Theology degrees had been offered.
2. To approve the school's teach-out plan since it meets the criteria for evaluating teach-out plans described in the Board of Commissioners' *Policy Manual*, Appendix 5.

ACTIONS RELATED TO OTHER REQUESTS

[Wesley Biblical Seminary](#) - Jackson, MS

1. To *postpone* the focused visit scheduled for fall 2017, authorized by the Board in February 2017, to the school's new complete-degree granting site at Oklahoma Wesleyan University—

Tulsa (10810 E 45th St, Ste 100, Tulsa, OK 74146), since that site will not open for another year. The school is reminded to remain in contact with Commission staff regarding plans for this site.

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