

Public Disclosure Notice on Lewis College of Business
August 9, 2007

What is the accreditation status of Lewis College of Business?

Lewis College of Business is no longer accredited by The Higher Learning Commission. It was accredited until August 9, 2007, at which date its accreditation ceased. (See the following paragraphs for additional information explaining this action and its history.)

What is the most recent action of the Commission's Board of Trustees relative to Lewis College of Business?

On March 29, 2007, the Board of Trustees of The Higher Learning Commission voted to withdraw accreditation from Lewis College of Business. The Board found that the College did not meet two of the Criteria for Accreditation. These are, but may not be limited to: Criterion One (*The organization operates with integrity to ensure the fulfillment of its mission through structures and processes that involve the board, administration, faculty, staff, and students*), Core Component 1.d. (*The organization's governance and administrative structures promote effective leadership and support collaborative processes that enable the organization to fulfill its mission*); and Criterion Two (*The organization's allocation of resources and its processes for evaluation and planning demonstrate its capacity to fulfill its mission, improve the quality of its education, and respond to future challenges and opportunities*), Core Component 2.a. (*The organization realistically prepares for a future shaped by multiple societal and economic trends*), Core Component 2.b. (*The organization's resource base supports its educational programs and its plans for maintaining and strengthening their quality in the future*), Core Component 2.c. (*The organization's ongoing evaluation and assessment processes provide reliable evidence of institutional effectiveness that clearly informs strategies for continuous improvement*), and Core Component 2.d. (*All levels of planning align with the organization's mission, thereby enhancing its capacity to fulfill that mission*). Further, the Board found that the College had not met the requirements of the Show-Cause Order dated February 28, 2006.

The Board's decision was informed by the *Show-Cause Institutional Report* the College filed on October 31, 2006, the report filed by the Evaluation Team that visited the College on December 4-6, 2006, the College's response to the team report that the College filed on January 24, 2007, a transcript of a Board Committee Hearing of February 8, 2007, and additional documentation provided by the College.

On June 8, 2007 the Board voted to extend the withdrawal of accreditation date to July 20, 2007 to allow for the College to complete its summer term prior to the withdrawal order taking effect.

On August 6, 2007 the Board reconsidered its withdrawal action subsequent to a remand by the Commission's Appeals Panel. The Board voted to remove one finding in the March 29 action but to adhere to and to reaffirm its decision to withdraw accreditation based on the failure of the College to meet Criterion One (Core Component 1.d.) and Criterion Two (Core Components 2.a., 2.b., and 2.d.) as set forth in the Board's March action. The Board's decision on remand was informed by the Appeals Panel letter as well as the institution's appeals documents and the Commission's rebuttal. By Commission policy the Board's decision is now final.

What options in Commission procedures are available to Lewis College of Business?

The College has no further options available to it within Commission processes. The College previously exercised its option to appeal the March 29, 2007 decision of the Board. On July 2, 2007 the Appeals Panel remanded the withdrawal action to the Commission's Board of Trustees for additional review and consideration. The Panel had concerns about one finding within the March 29 action. On August 6, 2007, the Board voted to remove that finding in the March 29 action but to adhere to and to reaffirm its decision to withdraw accreditation based on the failure of the College to meet Criterion One (Core Component 1.d.) and Criterion Two (Core Components 2.a., 2.b., and 2.d.) as set forth in the Board's March action. By Commission policy the Board's decision is now final.