



November 20, 2023

Dr. Juan R. Mejias Ortiz  
President  
Seminario Evangelico de Puerto Rico  
776 Ponce De Leon Avenue  
San Juan, PR 00925-2207

### **Notification of Non-Compliance Action**

Dear Dr. Mejias Ortiz:

On behalf of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, I am writing to inform you that on November 16, 2023, the Commission acted as follows:

To acknowledge receipt of the supplemental information report requested by the Commission action of November 17, 2022. To note the follow-up team visit was conducted by the Commission's representatives to the main campus at 776 Ponce De Leon Avenue, San Juan, PR 00925 on September 26-27, 2023. To place the institution on probation and note that the institution's accreditation is in jeopardy because of insufficient evidence that the institution is currently in compliance with Standard VI (Planning, Resources, and Institutional Improvement). To note further that federal regulations limit the period during which an institution may be in non-compliance, which starts on November 16, 2023. To request a monitoring report, due January 2, 2024, demonstrating evidence that the institution has achieved and can sustain ongoing compliance with Standard VI (Planning, Resources, and Institutional Improvement) including but not limited to (1) an update on the Warning on Resources (Financial) action by the Commission on Accreditation of the Association for Theological Schools (ATS) including copies of reports submitted to ATS (Standard II); (2) institutional and unit goals that are clearly stated, assessed appropriately, linked to mission and goal achievement, reflect conclusions drawn from assessment results, and are used for planning and resource allocation (Standard VI); (3) clearly documented and communicated planning and improvement processes that provide for inclusive constituent participation (Standard VI); (4) a financial planning and budgeting process that is aligned with the institution's mission and goals, evidence-based, and clearly linked to the institution's and units' strategic plans/ objectives (Standard VI); (5) documented financial resources, funding base, and plans for financial development, including those from any related entities adequate to support its educational purposes and programs and to ensure financial stability (Standard VI); (6) a record of responsible fiscal management, including preparing a multi-year budget and submission of the external financial audits for FY 2021 and FY 2022 confirming financial viability and proper internal financial controls, with evidence of

corrective measures taken to address any material findings cited in the audit or an accompanying management letter (Standard VI); and (7) comprehensive planning for facilities, infrastructure, and technology that includes consideration of sustainability and deferred maintenance and is linked to the institution's strategic and financial planning processes (Standard VI) (Fourteenth Edition and Evidence Expectations by Standard Guidelines). To require that the institution complete and submit for approval, by January 2, 2024, a comprehensive, implementable teach-out plan and signed teach-out agreements with appropriate teach-out partner institutions (Teach-Out Plans and Agreements Policy and Procedures). In accordance with Commission policy and federal regulations, the teach-out plan must provide for the equitable treatment of students to complete their education or transfer to another institution, if the Commission were to withdraw accreditation. To note the Commission may reject the teach-out and require resubmission if all of the required information is not provided. To direct a prompt Commission liaison guidance visit to discuss the Commission's expectations. A follow-up team visit will follow submission of the monitoring report. Upon reaffirmation of accreditation, the next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2026-2027.

This action is a non-compliance action. An explanation of this type of action is provided in the Commission's *Accreditation Actions Policy and Procedures*. If any of the information contained within the action appears to be factually incorrect, please send an email within 60 calendar days of the date of the action to [actions@msche.org](mailto:actions@msche.org).

Pursuant to the Commission's *Communication in the Accreditation Process Policy and Procedures*, this letter serves as the Commission's official notification of this action. This accreditation action will be publicly available on the Commission's website within 24 hours of informing the institution. In accordance with policy and federal regulation, the Commission provides notification of non-compliance actions to the United States Secretary of Education, the appropriate state or other licensing or authorizing agency, and the appropriate accrediting agencies at the same time it notifies the institution, but no later than 30 days after it takes the action.

Commission policy and procedures allow for the submission of an optional institutional statement, which will be posted on the Commission's website, in response to the above non-compliance action. Any institutional statement must be on institutional letterhead, signed by an authorized representative of the institution, and submitted as a PDF document. Because the institutional statement will be posted publicly, it is important that the institutional statement address the accreditation issue and avoid issues that are not relevant to the action. Hyperlinks are not permitted to be used. The submission of an optional institutional statement must be sent to [actions@msche.org](mailto:actions@msche.org) within 60 calendar days from the date of the action.

Pursuant to the Commission's *Public Disclosures Policy and Procedures* and federal regulation 34 CFR § 602.26(b), the institution is required to publicly disclose an accurate representation of its current accreditation phase and accreditation status with the Commission, which you will find on the institution's Statement of Accreditation Status (SAS) at the Commission's website. The institution is required to publicly disclose non-compliance and adverse actions. The Commission

provides procedures and a sample statement for this disclosure in the *Public Disclosures Policy and Procedures* which must be implemented within seven calendar days of this notification where accreditation is referenced on the institution's website and wherever accreditation is referenced in publications.

It is critical for the institution to review and understand the Commission's policies and procedures which will explain the Commission's actions and the institution's accreditation status:

[\*Accreditation Actions Policy and Procedures\*](#)

[\*Accreditation Review Cycle and Monitoring Policy and Procedures\*](#)

[\*Communication in the Accreditation Process Policy and Procedures\*](#)

[\*Public Disclosures Policy and Procedures\*](#)

[\*Standards for Accreditation and Requirements of Affiliation\*](#)

For questions about the Commission's actions, please contact the institution's assigned Commission staff liaison. Questions from the public about the institution's accreditation phase or accreditation status can be directed to [communications@msche.org](mailto:communications@msche.org). For additional information, visit [www.msche.org](http://www.msche.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heather F. Perfetti", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Heather F. Perfetti, J.D., Ed.D.  
President