

DATE: February 15, 2004

TO: Weimar Institute Board of Directors

FROM: Administration and faculty of Weimar College

RE: Proposal To Accredite Weimar College

We, the Institute administration and faculty of Weimar College seek board action to immediately begin the process of arranging for the accreditation of our college. This recommendation is the result of lengthy research, universal consensus, and most of all, prayer.

We propose this prompt action for the following reasons:

1. First and foremost, it is the ethical thing to do. Our students, particularly in health and education, have struggled under the shadow of paying thousands of dollars, only to earn college credits that simply are not accepted in their chosen fields of service. We have stoically attempted to help our students by linking up with Pacific Union College and Griggs University but have found this arrangement to be awkward and difficult, and too often, practically unworkable.
2. Our current policy and college program essentially say to the health and education majors: "If you want to earn a living in your field of ministry, then attend other colleges to receive the 'finishing touches' requisite for employment." We now know, from more careful study of Ellen White, that this concept is self-defeating because we cannot provide a complete Weimar curriculum that will, in Ellen White's words, legally qualify a student to be a teacher or health worker.
3. We believe, based on clear Spirit of Prophecy counsel that it is infinitely better to interact with a volunteer organization than to unnecessarily place ourselves under the mandate of the State. Under Weimar College's current charter, we are forced to subject our curriculum to periodic investigations by the State, complete with civil threats of closure if we don't measure up. If we were accredited, the State would be fully satisfied with our membership in the voluntary regional accrediting agency and would not then deem it necessary to "visit" our campus to "see how we're doing."
4. Most important of all, the accrediting process will force us to revisit our pioneer days and articulate past convictions in 21st Century language. Thus, our unique "Weimar Message" will not only be "proclaimed" to thought leaders, but also our own students and faculty will immeasurably benefit from a more focused mission!

To summarize, we believe that immediate action on this proposal is essential to the very existence of our college. Many potential students are seriously pondering whether or not to attend Weimar. However, many are tentative about enrolling because of the reported "problems" of recent years. Now is the time to corporately respond to this challenge with positive affirmations of a "new" Weimar College----a college that fully prepares the earnest student for distinctive and acceptable service for our Lord.

Second letter to the board two days later...

DATE: February 17, 2004

TO: Weimar Institute Board of Directors

FROM: Institute administration and faculty of Weimar College

RE: Proposal to seek accreditation

We, the Institute administration and faculty of Weimar College, seek action to immediately begin the process of arranging for the accreditation of our college. This recommendation is the result of lengthy research, universal consensus, and most of all, prayer.

We propose this prompt action with the following stipulations:

1. That Weimar College maintains full control of faculty hiring practices by incorporating strict standards for faculty employment into its basic mission statement. There is abundant precedent in other conservative Christian colleges that it is indeed possible to consistently employ “believers” who uphold the institution’s fundamental values. We also advise writing into our core mission statement a procedure for yearly review of both the spiritual and academic qualities of every faculty member. Although fair and equitable treatment of teachers will be emphasized, there will be no such designation as faculty “tenure” at Weimar.

2. That Weimar College faculty continually “interact” with the extant material from the conversations, minutes and letters of Ellen White concerning Loma Linda, a school that she personally asserted should “qualify” students to pass State requirements in the health professions. Today, in 2004, we face similar challenges in the field of education as well. See *Loma Linda Messages*, especially 392-445 and *Ellen White Biography* Vol. VI, chapter 21

3. That Weimar College understands clearly the counsel of Ellen White and not the popular views of “revisionist historians” who make unwarranted assumptions about accreditation. Here is an example of *primary source* material:

“J.A. Burden: ‘...Would securing a charter [accreditation] for a medical school, where our students might obtain an education, militate against our dependence upon God?’

“E.G. White: ‘No, I do not see that it would. Only see that you do not exalt men above God.’ LLU 426

As the result of the above dialogue and others that might be cited, we find it morally unacceptable to “jump” to the conclusion that accreditation is in any way wrong or a denial of God’s leading. Additionally, Ellen White emphatically states that it is unconscionable to operate a college that is not qualified to ***complete*** the training of students in a given field of study! See LLU 424 For additional information, please note the enclosed papers.