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COMMISSION ON INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

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July 15, 2014

Dr. D. Michael Lindsay
President
Gordon College
255 Grapevine Road
Wenham, MA 01984

Dear President Lindsay:

I understand there is some confusion regarding the New England Association of Schools and College's (NEASC's) Commission on Institutions of Higher Education's review of Gordon College in light of recent media attention. You report that some have wondered if Gordon College's accreditation might be in jeopardy. I appreciate the opportunity to address the concerns.

As we have discussed, there is no chance that an action withdrawing Gordon College's accreditation or placing the institution on probation would be taken at the Commission's September meeting. It is common practice for the Commission to discuss instances in which a member institution has been prominently in the news over a matter that may relate to the Commission's Standards for Accreditation or its policies. Being on the agenda only indicates that the Commission will discuss the matter and decide what action, if any, to take. But as noted above, the range of actions that the Commission could take at the September meeting would not include withdrawal of accreditation or probation.

I appreciate that you have been very forthcoming about Gordon's historic position on the matters at hand and also your offer to provide information for the Commission's consideration at its September meeting.

As indicated by the generally positive comprehensive evaluation of the College in 2012, the Commission has enjoyed its positive relationship with the College for over fifty years and hopes and expects that to continue for many years to come.

Sincerely yours,

Barbara Brittingham

BB/bec