

July 12, 2019

Ralph Kuncl, PhD, MD  
President  
University of Redlands  
1200 East Colton Ave.  
PO Box 3080  
Redlands, CA 92373-0999

Dear President Kuncl:

During its June 26-28, 2019 meeting, the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) considered a proposal submitted by University of Redlands (Redlands) to merge with San Francisco Theological Seminary (SFTS) (collectively referred to as “Merger”). This Merger is a Structural Change, defined by WSCUC Substantive Change policy as a change in mission, ownership, legal status, or control.

Consideration of this Structural Change follows submission by the institution of a proposal and its subsequent review by a panel of the Substantive Change Committee via teleconference on March 28, 2019, and an on-site visit to the SFTS campus in San Anselmo, CA on May 15, 2019. During its June 2019 meeting, the Structural Change Committee of the Commission reviewed the original Structural Change application materials, the visiting team report, and additional materials which had been requested to supplement the proposal.

The Structural Change Committee endorsed the findings of the Substantive Change Committee panel and referred to the full Commission its recommendation that the Merger be approved.

After deliberation, the Commission acted to:

1. Receive the Structural Change Committee recommendation;
2. Approve the proposed merger between University of Redlands and San Francisco Theological Seminary, such that the SFTS main campus in San Anselmo, CA will become a Branch Campus of Redlands, with a deadline for implementation under this approval of December 31, 2019;
3. Require a post-implementation visit within six months of implementation to address the recommendation of the Substantive Change panel.

The Commission approved the following recommendation to be assessed during the post implementation visit: The institution should closely monitor their ability to maintain the quality of their service to students, especially as they ramp up new programs.

The previously scheduled Special Visit to SFTS to occur in spring 2020 will be cancelled, and Redlands will proceed to its previously scheduled Off-site Review in fall 2021 and Accreditation Visit in spring 2022.

This letter will be posted on the WSCUC website in accordance with WSCUC Commission policy. If Redlands would like to respond to the Commission's findings, a link to your response will be posted on the WSCUC website.

Finally, the Commission wishes to express its appreciation to Redlands and SFTS for their cooperation during this Structural Change review. WSCUC is committed to an accreditation process that adds value to institutions while contributing to public accountability, and we thank you for your continued support of this process.

Please contact me if you have any questions or comments about this letter or the action of the Commission.

Sincerely,



Jamienna S. Studley  
President

cc:

Leland Launer, Chair, University of Redlands Board of Trustees  
Kimberly Coles, Accreditation Liaison Officer  
Members of the Substantive Change Committee panel  
Tamela Hawley, Vice President  
John Hausaman, Director of Substantive Change and Committee Relations