



**NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES  
COMMISSION ON INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

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**PUBLIC STATEMENT ON ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE**

At its meeting on February 28 and 29, 2008, the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) acted to place Atlantic Union College on probation. Probation is a public status; the information provided below is in accord with the Commission's policy on release of information.

This action was taken following a special visit to Atlantic Union College in September 2007. The results of that visit were considered by the Commission at its meeting in November 2007, at which time the Commission acted to ask the institution to "show cause" why its accreditation should not be terminated. Through the show cause process at the February 2008 meeting, the Commission found that, as a result of progress and plans made since the November meeting, the institution has shown cause to retain its accreditation. However, Atlantic Union College was placed on probation because it does not currently meet the Commission's standard on Financial Resources, one of eleven *Standards for Accreditation*. In placing Atlantic Union College on probation, the Commission has determined that its failure to meet one of the Commission's standards represents a condition that can be remedied by the institution within two years.

Atlantic Union College remains accredited during the period of probation.

Institutions on probation are subject to close monitoring by the Commission. Atlantic Union College will submit a special report to the Commission in September 2008 addressing the Commission's concerns and will undergo a comprehensive evaluation in Spring 2009.

Probation may be appealed through a process established by the NEASC Trustees. Consistent with federal regulations, the period of probation is limited to two years, unless extended by the Commission for good cause.

The Commission on Institutions of Higher Education (CIHE), a constituent element of NEASC, accredits 234 degree-granting institutions in the six New England states; it is recognized by the United States Department of Education. CIHE is one of seven regional higher education accrediting commissions.

This statement has been reviewed and approved by the institution.

March 14, 2008