

July 9, 2026

Dr. Gayle Beebe
President
Westmont College
955 La Paz Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93108-1089

Dear President Beebe:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning Westmont College (Westmont) by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) at its meeting June 24 - 26, 2026. This action was taken after consideration of the report of the review team that conducted the Thematic Pathway for Reaffirmation (TPR) Accreditation Visit to Westmont College January 26 – 29, 2026 using the 2023 Standards of Accreditation. The Commission also reviewed the institutional report and exhibits submitted by Westmont College prior to the Accreditation Visit, and the institution's June 9, 2026 response to the team report. The Commission appreciated the opportunity to discuss the visit with you and your colleagues Kim Battle-Walters Denu, Provost and Tim Loomer, AVP of Research, Planning and Implementation and ALO. Your comments were very helpful in informing the Commission's deliberations. The date of this action constitutes the effective date of the institution's new status with WSCUC.

Actions

1. Receive the Accreditation Visit Team Report
2. Reaffirm accreditation for a period of ten years
3. Schedule the next reaffirmation review with the Offsite Review in fall 2035 and the Accreditation Visit in spring 2036
4. Schedule an Interim Report to be submitted by March 1, 2028, to address:
 - a. defining a compelling mission-based vision for Westmont's future that encompasses all educational offerings and extends beyond economic risks to the College.
 - b. improving communication between faculty and the administration concerning potential impediments to the College's long-term sustainability.
 - c. clarifying what it means for Westmont faculty to exercise effective academic leadership in the context of new and current program offerings.

Commendations

The Commission commends the institution for the following:

1. Clear and well-established processes for the review and assessment of disciplinary programs, including the evaluation of annual reports and regular reflection on student learning evidence to inform continuous curricular and programmatic improvement.
2. A commitment by the faculty, staff, students, Board of Trustees, and administration to the mission of Westmont College and to ensure it remains a viable and thriving faith-based liberal arts college.
3. Progress on its goals to educate students on justice, reconciliation, belonging, cultural competencies, and the ability to discuss differences, through curricular and co-curricular programming rooted in the Christian faith and jointly adopted by the administration and the faculty.
4. Realizing \$325 million in philanthropic commitments over the past 10 years toward new building construction, facilities renewal, increased operational funds, Augustinian Scholars, the Martin Institute, the Center for Student Success, improved athletic facilities, and endowment support for scholarships and professorships, among other initiatives.

Areas for Development

The Commission requires the institution to respond to the following areas for development:

1. Define a compelling mission-based vision for Westmont's future that encompasses all educational offerings and extends beyond current possible economic threats to the College. (CFR 1.1)
2. Improve communication between faculty and the administration concerning potential impediments to the College's long-term sustainability. (CFR 1.3, 1.7)
3. Develop a clear, data-driven plan to recruit and retain students in the context of declining enrollment on the main campus and to avoid risk of institutional disequilibrium. (CFR 3.4, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3)
4. Assess the General Education program to evaluate whether it is accomplishing one of its goals to support student success in the disciplinary programs. (CFR 2.3, 2.4)
5. Clarify what it means for Westmont College faculty to exercise effective academic leadership in the context of current and new program offerings. (CFR 2.5, 2.6)

In taking this action to reaffirm accreditation, the Commission confirmed that Westmont completed the Thematic Pathway for Reaffirmation institutional review process conducted under the 2023 Standards of Accreditation. In keeping with WSCUC values, Westmont College should strive for ongoing improvement with adherence to all

Standards of Accreditation and their associated CFRs to foster a learning environment that continuously strives for educational excellence and operational effectiveness.

In accordance with Commission policy, a copy of this letter is being sent to the chair of Westmont College's governing board. The Commission expects that the team report and this action letter will be posted in a readily accessible location on the Westmont College website and widely distributed throughout the institution to promote further engagement and improvement and to support the institution's response to the specific issues identified in these documents. The team report and the Commission's action letter will also be posted on the WSCUC website. If the institution wishes to respond to the Commission action on its own website, WSCUC will post a link to that response on the WSCUC website.

Finally, the Commission wishes to express its appreciation for the extensive work that Westmont College undertook in preparing for the accreditation 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 about this letter or the action of the Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Maria Toyoda', with a stylized, flowing script.

A. Maria Toyoda
President

AMT/mam

Cc: Mary Marcy, Commission Chair
Tim Loomer, ALO
Mitch Vance, Board Chair
Members of the TPR Accreditation Visit Team
Maureen A. Maloney, Vice President