

June 27, 2024

Dr. Seung Je Cho, President
Bethesda University
730 North Euclid Street
Anaheim, CA 92801
[REDACTED]

Dear President Je Cho:

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. This letter is your official notification of ABHE Commission on Accreditation actions relative to Bethesda University. The ABHE Commission on Accreditation reviewed your institution at its June 19, 2024 meeting and took the following action:

Place Bethesda University (CA) on warning and continue programmatic accreditation in light of no progress reported as required in the action letters of March 2023 and February 2024, and require a progress report, due September 15, 2024, addressing the following concerns:

- **Programmatic Standard 1: EE 1, 2 (integrity in operations and fulfillment of applicable Commission requirements)**
- **Programmatic Standard 2: EE 5, Policy on Outcomes (provision of reliable information to the public regarding accredited program outcomes as noted in the Website Outcomes Report)**

Warning is a negative, public action indicating that the COA has determined that an institution is in substantial compliance with ABHE programmatic standards, but meets one or more standards with sufficient weakness that, if the current trend is not altered, the institution is in jeopardy of being found out of compliance with a standard in the near future and placed on probation. The institution retains accredited status with ABHE during a period of warning, and will be subject to periodic monitoring, which may include progress reports and/or focused visits by COA staff or evaluation teams. If weaknesses are not resolved within the time specified (usually one year), the COA may (1) extend the warning for a second year, (2) place the institution on probation, (3) order the institution to show cause why its accreditation should be continued, or (4) withdraw accreditation. Warning is rarely extended beyond two years. Rather, an institution that fails to strengthen specified weaknesses by a stated COA deadline is placed on probation. Warning is not an appealable action.

ABHE provides notification of the action to the United States Department of Education, state and provincial postsecondary education offices, and recognized accrediting agencies at the same time as notification is provided to the institution. Within 24 hours of this notification, the action and the reasons for the action will be posted to the ABHE website and appear on the Accreditation Fact Sheet in the institution's directory listing at www.abhe.org/directory. A link to this action letter will also be available on the ABHE website. Within seven (7) days after receiving notification

from the COA of a decision to place the institution on warning (this letter), the institution will publish notice of the action to its website. The prescribed language for that notification is found in the *Policy on Communication of Accreditation Decisions and Negative Actions* in the COA Manual.

In addition to the report indicated above, the institution will be expected to send representatives to meet with the COA at the February 2025 meeting to respond to questions and provide clarifications regarding further progress in addressing the concerns. At that time, the COA will act to remove warning, continue warning, or impose another sanction, depending on the progress made in strengthening compliance with the ABHE Programmatic Standards and Condition of Eligibility referenced in the motion above.

The effective date of this action is June 19, 2024. Please see the Report Guide at www.abhe.org/accreditation/accreditation-documents/ for assistance in formatting and submitting any reports required by the Commission.

Areas of concern requiring additional institutional reporting reference the 2024 Accreditation Standards approved by the ABHE Delegate Assembly in February 2024. For a full listing of the 2024 Standards, see the *COA Standards and Policies Manual* linked [here](#).

Please do not hesitate to contact me or Dr. Shane Wood, your Commission Staff Representative, with any questions that arise regarding this communication. May God bless your continued engagement in biblical higher education.

Sincerely,



Lisa L. Beatty, Ph.D.

Executive Director, Commission on Accreditation

cc: Dr. Soon Bum Heo, Board Chair, c/o [REDACTED]
Dr. George Winney, Accreditation Liaison, c/o [REDACTED]