



New Church and Congregational Development

Kentucky Conference of the United Methodist Church

To whom it may concern:

In a recent Dallas Morning News article entitled "Paul Quinn College loses accreditation," Dr. Belle Wheelan of the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools states that "He (President Michael Sorrel) just didn't make enough progress," as an indictment against our institution. I would not enjoy my current success had it not been for my dear alma mater. From Paul Quinn College, I was accepted into Southern Methodist University, received a graduate degree, and now work as the Associate Director for New Church & Congregational Development with the United Methodist Church where I serve the entire Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Our college may not compare to predominantly Anglo-institutions attended by Wheelan. Its mission was different from its beginnings. Paul Quinn College was founded on the hopes and dreams of formerly enslaved Africans for a better life through education. The decision to berate the accreditation does not account for lives transformed since our 1872 beginnings.

Sorrel, administrators, and staff have done a phenomenal job of transforming the college into the 21st century. He will tell you that we have not made enough progress yet. Nevertheless, Paul Quinn College is more vital now to our students, who are becoming increasingly multi-ethnic. Give us the opportunity to make enough progress and we will show you more than enough!

Sincerely,

Rev. D. Anthony Everett
Associate Director for African American Ministries
New Church & Congregational Development
Kentucky Conference of the United Methodist Church
Paul Quinn College Class of 2004

