

PARS Theological Centre
Dr. Mehrdad Fatehi, President
Dr. Mariet Maliekan, Director of Studies
Farnborough
Hampshire
England

Sent via e-mail

Wednesday, 18 May 2022

Re: Accreditation Decision

Dear Mehrdad and Mariet,

the ECTE Accreditation Commission (AC) in its session on May 17, 2022, deliberated on the final Review Report submitted by the Review Secretary in April 2022 after the on-site visit in February 2022 and additional representation submitted to the AC by PARS in April of 2022.

The VET suggested the following requirements to the AC in the Review Report:

Suggested Requirement 1: Whilst short term development plans are in place, the VET suggests that the accreditation commission requires that PARS identify within their strategic plan their response to the need of adequate provision for tutor and faculty instructional development, enrichment of qualifications and provision for faculty research. (See standard 3.2.2 pre-2019.)

Suggested Requirement 2: The VET suggests that the accreditation commission requires that PARS identify within their strategic plan response to their own recognition of the need to have long term development plans in relation to leadership succession. (See standard 3.2.2 pre-2019.)

Suggested Requirement 3: The VET suggests that the accreditation commission requires that diploma supplements are implemented and given to graduates. (See standard 3.2.6 pre-2019.)

Suggested Requirement 4: The VET suggests that the accreditation commission requires that the school develop an organised alumni programme. (See standard 3.2.14 pre-2019.)

Based on the additional representation, the requirements suggested by the VET are waived. The AC considers PARS in compliance relating to

- Pre-2019 Standards 3.2.2, 3.2.6 with the expectation that implementation steps related to the Strategic Plan will be included in each Annual Progress Report and
- Pre-2019 Standard 3.2.14 with the suggestion of further alignment of the Diploma Supplement template as outlined in the [Guidelines for the Diploma Supplement](#).

Thus, the ECTE Accreditation Commission unanimously granted

- Institutional accreditation without requirements to PARS Theological Centre as an alternative provider of higher education.
- Programme accreditation without requirements for
 - one-year programme at EQF Level 5 (partial) with 60 ECTS points
 - two-year programme at EQF Level 5 with 120 ECTS points

Within a few days PARS will be listed in the [ECTE directory](#) on the website with institutional and programme information. Please refer to the “[Understanding the Directory](#)” section that explains comparability, etc.

Please see the Review Report (attached) for commendations and recommendations issued by the Visiting Evaluation Team and confirmed by the Accreditation Commission. Responses to recommendations are to be included in the Annual Progress Reports (APRs).

In addition to the required APR, any significant institutional changes are to be reported to the ECTE within one month and major programme reforms are to be discussed with the Accreditation Director and approved by the Accreditation Commission before implementation. Whenever an institution adds a new specialization/concentration or a new delivery method to an existing accredited programme, that institution must also inform the Accreditation Director before implementation can begin.

Similarly, whenever a new programme is developed, the institution should notify the Accreditation Director, indicate its plans for programme accreditation and specify in its publications whether the programme will be submitted for accreditation to ECTE or not. ECTE is aware of the three-year-programme PARS is building.

The institution and the programmes will be listed on the [ECTE website directory](#) within the next few days. Please alert us if you detect any factual errors.

The next cyclical review will be due in 2027– please contact me in 2026 to start the process.

Please make sure in any public information that ECTE accreditation leads to equivalency statements based on the evaluation according to the European Standard Guidelines (ESG). It is not a substitute for national recognition, nor should this be implied in your wording. ECTE does not confer degrees nor is it authorized to grant this right to any institution. The respective institution is responsible for its degree nomenclature based on national regulations. Please publish the following on your website under the heading ‘accreditation’.

‘PARS has obtained institutional accreditation from the European Council for Theological Education (ECTE) as an alternative provider of higher education in 2022 together with programme accreditation for the following programmes (name of accredited programmes, EQF level 5,6 or 7, year of accreditation). ECTE accreditation of alternative providers of higher education indicates that the learning opportunities offered by PARS are compliant with the European Standards and Guidelines for higher education and attests to the level of the learning opportunities according to the EQF. Further information can be found here (include link to the institution’s directory listing on the ECTE website)

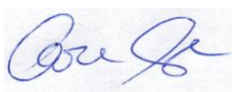
As always, the accreditation reviews are strenuous and at times tedious - congratulations to you and your team for a job well done in an exemplary way!

The ECTE Accreditation Commissions warmly commends the school as excellent in achieving its intentions in theological education and the entire team at PARS Theological Centre.

Thank you for your warm welcome of the VET and the spirit of cooperation and transparency which has pervaded the entire visit.

Please do not hesitate to contact me as questions arise. I look forward to hearing from you.

Serving Him with you



Carmen Crouse
Accreditation Director