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The College of Wooster Landscape Management Honored with Prestigious PGMS Accreditation

BALTIMORE (November 2014) – The College of Wooster has received a Landscape Management and Operations Accreditation as awarded by the Professional Grounds Management Society (PGMS), it was announced by Walt Bonvell, a Certified Grounds Manager (CGM), past president of PGMS and senior grounds lead of Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio.

"In receiving this exciting new accreditation they earned a rating of 2-stars" said Bonvell. "The College of Wooster's Grounds Department epitomized how best practices can be achievable and successful through effective collaborations. A demonstrative appreciation of good relationships and the necessary nurturing processes helped to advance them in the Landscape Management and Operations Accreditation program," explained Accreditation Facilitator Joe Jackson, CGM.

Beau Mastrine, CGM, director of grounds at the College of Wooster, developed the accreditation submission and received the honor on behalf of the school.

The PGMS Landscape Management and Operations Accreditation program is a dynamic evaluation tool designed to be used by facilities and organizations that have a landscape services or grounds component. Through peer expertise, the program evaluates strategic grounds management principles and practices that produce and guide the delivery of properties to an attractive, healthy, sustainable and high quality state, states PGMS. PGMS accreditation focuses on three categories: environmental stewardship, economic performance, and social responsibilities.

"PGMS' Landscape Management and Operations Accreditation is a remarkable accomplishment for a campus to receive," stressed Bonvell. "Besides the honor, the detailed evaluation report outlining the strengths and weaknesses of the College of Wooster's best practices as evaluated by professional peers is worth tens of thousands of dollars in providing feedback that will constructively allow a manager to better systems and possibly reduce costs while enhancing sustainability and social responsibilities." For more information on the accreditation program please visit <http://pgms.org/accreditation/>.

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About the Professional Grounds Management Society

Established in 1911, the Professional Grounds Management Society is an individual membership society of grounds professionals dedicated to advancing the grounds management profession through education and professional development. Further information on PGMS is available online at www.PGMS.org.