

## **Report of the Meeting**

### **National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI)**

**February 7-8, 2018**



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Arthur E. Keiser, Ph.D., Chair

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....4**

**SUMMARY OF AGENCY-RELATED ACTIONS.....6**

**PANEL ON STUDENT-LEVEL DATA NETWORK.....10**

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON REGULATORY REFORM.....11**

### **DISCLAIMER**

This report summarizes the deliberations of the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) at its February 7-8, 2018 meeting. The NACIQI is an advisory committee established by the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008, and is subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act. This report represents the views of the NACIQI. The report has not been reviewed for approval by the Department of Education, and therefore, the report's recommendations do not purport to represent the views of the Department.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

NACIQI was most recently authorized by Section 106 of the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008. NACIQI's primary functions include advising the Secretary of Education on the establishment and enforcement of criteria for recognition of accrediting agencies under Subpart 2 of Part H, Title IV, of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA), as well as the recognition of specific accrediting agencies or associations or a specific State approval agency. The NACIQI also advises the Secretary on the eligibility and certification process for institutions of higher education under Title IV, of the HEA, including the relationship between accreditation of institutions of higher education and the certification and eligibility of such institutions, and state licensing responsibilities with respect to such institutions.

NACIQI met to carry out its responsibilities to advise the senior Department official with respect to the recognition of accrediting agencies at its February 7-8, 2018 meeting at the Washington Plaza Hotel at 10 Thomas Circle, NW, Washington, DC, 20005.

NACIQI reviewed the following types of applications at its February 7-8, 2018 meeting:

- Eight applications for renewal of recognition from accrediting agencies;
- Three compliance reports from accrediting agencies;
- One renewal of recognition for a state nursing approval agency;
- One compliance report for a state nursing approval agency; and
- One compliance report for a state agency for public postsecondary vocational education.

NACIQI reviews all information submitted by an agency in support of its petition, the staff analysis and report, and third-party comments. NACIQI posed standard questions to agencies from its [pilot project](#) document and considered data provided by the [accreditor data dashboards](#) as part of its review process.

Chairman Keiser opened the meeting and welcomed the Committee and members of the public.

NACIQI heard a panel presentation regarding student-level data and the potentiality of a Federal student unit record database to inform policy makers and accreditors. Panel members included: Andrew Gillen, Independent Higher Education Researcher; Michael Itzkowitz, Independent Contractor and Senior Fellow for Third Way; Elise Miller, Vice President for Research and Policy Analysis, Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU); Christopher Sadler, Education Data and Privacy Fellow, New America; and Mamie Voight, Vice President of Policy Research, Institute for Higher Education Policy (IHEP).

The subcommittee on regulatory reform, chaired by Claude Pressnell, reported out its recommendations to the full committee, which voted unanimously to accept the recommendations with minor edits. The final report will be available on the NACIQI website.

NACIQI members in attendance for all or part of the meeting included Arthur Keiser (Chair), Frank Wu (Vice Chair), Simon Boehme, Roberta Derlin, John Etchemendy, George T. French, Brian Jones, Richard O'Donnell, Susan Phillips, Claude Pressnell, Arthur Rothkopf, Steven VanAusdle, Ralph Wolff, and Federico Zaragoza. U.S. Department of Education representatives who participated in the meeting included: NACIQI Executive Director and Designated Federal Official Jennifer Hong, Accreditation Director Herman Bounds, Sally Morgan (Office of the General Counsel), Elizabeth Daggett, Nicole Harris, Valerie Lefor, Stephanie McKissic, and Charles Mula.

## **SUMMARY OF AGENCY-RELATED ACTIONS**

(\*In alphabetical order.)

The following agencies were acted on under NACIQI's consent agenda:

### **Compliance Reports | Accrediting Agencies**

#### **American Board of Funeral Service Education, Committee on Accreditation**

Action for Consideration: Compliance report

Recommendation: Vote: 11-0

Renew the agency's recognition for three years.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

John Etchemendy

Steven Van Ausdle

#### **Midwifery Education Accreditation Council**

Action for Consideration: Compliance report

Recommendation: Vote: 11-0

Renew the agency's recognition for three years.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

Brian W. Jones

Steven Van Ausdle

#### **Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education**

Action for Consideration: Compliance report

Recommendation: Vote: 11-0

Renew the agency's recognition for three years.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

Anne Neal

Susan D. Phillips

### **Compliance Report | State Agency for the Approval of Nurse Education**

#### **New York State Board of Regents, State Education Department, Office of the Professions, Nursing Education**

Action for Consideration: Compliance report

Recommendation: Vote: 11-0

Renew the agency's recognition for two years.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

Anne D. Neal

Arthur J. Rothkopf

## **Renewal of Recognition | State Approval Agency for Nurse Education**

### **North Dakota Board of Nursing**

Action for Consideration: Compliance report

Recommendation: Vote: 12-0

Renew the agency's recognition for four years.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

Roberta L. Derlin

Anne D. Neal

The following agencies were acted on using NACIQI's standard review procedures:

## **Renewal of Recognition | Accrediting Agencies**

### **Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)**

Action for Consideration: Renewal of recognition

NACIQI Recommendation: Vote: 12-0

Renew the agency's recognition for five years.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

Ralph Wolff

Federico Zaragoza

Representatives of the Agency:

Catherine McJannet, MN, RN, CNE, Chair | ACEN

Marsal P. Stoll, EdD, MSN, BSN, CEO | ACEN

Sharon Beasley, PhD, RN, CNE, Associate Director | ACEN

### **Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education (ACME)**

Action for Consideration: Renewal of recognition

Committee Recommendation: Vote: 12-0

Continue the agency's current recognition and require the agency to come into compliance within 12 months, and submit a compliance report 30 days after the 12 month period that demonstrates the agency's compliance with the issues identified in the staff analysis.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

Kathleen Sullivan Alioto

Claude O. Pressnell, Jr.

Representatives of the Agency:

Heather Maurer, MA, Executive Director | ACME

Peter Johnson, CNM, PhD, FACNM, Chair | ACME

Anne Cockerham, PhD, CNM, WHNP-BC, CNE, Commissioner | ACME

Ronald Hunt, DDS, MS, Member of Public, Board of Commissioners | ACME

### **American Physical Therapy Association, Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE)**

Action for Consideration: Renewal of recognition

Committee Recommendation: Vote 12-0 (Recusal: Keiser)

Continue the agency's current recognition and require the agency to come into compliance within 12 months, and submit a compliance report 30 days after the 12 month period that demonstrates the agency's compliance with the issues identified in the staff analysis.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

John Etchemendy

Claude O. Pressnell, Jr.

Representatives of the Agency:

Sandra L. Wise, Sr. Director of Accreditation | CAPTE

Beth Marcoux, Commission Chair | CAPTE

### **Higher Learning Commission (HLC)**

Action for Consideration: Renewal of recognition

Committee Recommendation: Vote: 8-0 (Recusals: Derlin, Wolff)

Renew the agency's recognition for five years.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

Richard F. O'Donnell

Susan D. Phillips

Representatives of the Agency:

Barbara Gellman-Danley, Ph.D., President | HLC

Cheryl Johnson-Odim, Ph.D., Board Chair | HLC

Karen Peterson, J.D., Executive Vice President for Legal and Governmental Affairs Higher Learning Commission | HLC

Third Party Comments:

Antoinette Flores, Senior Policy Analyst, Postsecondary Education | Center for American Progress

### **Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE)**

Action for Consideration: Renewal of recognition

Committee Recommendation: Vote: 11-0 (Recusals: Jones, Phillips, Rothkopf)

Renew the agency's recognition for five years.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

George T. French

Roberta L. Derlin

Representatives of the Agency:

Elizabeth H. Sibolski, Ph.D., President | MSCHE

Mary Beth Kait, Senior Director for Accreditation Policy | MSCHE

George Pruitt, Ph.D., President | Thomas Edison State University

Margaret M. McMnamin, Commission Vice Chair, Ed.D., President | Union County College

W. Allen Richman, Ph.D., Senior Director for Research | MSCHE



**New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Institutions of Higher Education (NEASC)**

Action for Consideration: Renewal of recognition

Committee Recommendation: Vote: 11-0

Renew the agency's recognition for five years.

Discussion:

NACIQI Primary Readers:

Simon J. Boehme

Frank H. Wu

Representatives of the Agency:

Barbara Brittingham, President | NEASC

Pat O'Brien, Senior Vice President | NEASC

**New York State Board of Regents and the Commission of Education (NYBRE)**

Action for Consideration: Renewal of recognition

NACIQI Recommendation: Vote: 13-0

Continue the agency's current recognition and require the agency to come into compliance within 12 months, and submit a compliance report 30 days after the 12 month period that demonstrates the agency's compliance with the issues identified in the staff analysis.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

Ralph Wolff

Frank H. Wu

Representatives of the Agency:

Mary Ellen Elia, Commissioner | NYS Education Department

John L. D'Agati, Deputy Commissioner, Office of Higher Education | NYS Education Department

Leslie E. Templeman, Director, Office of College and University Evaluation | NYS Education Department

Shannon L. Tahoe, Deputy Counsel | NYS Education Department

**Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Senior Colleges and Universities (WSCUC)**

Action for Consideration: Renewal of recognition

Recommendation: Vote: 10-0 (Recusals: Etchemendy, Wolff, Wu)

Renew the agency's recognition for five years.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

Brian W. Jones

Steven Van Ausdle

Representatives of the Agency:

Jamienne S. Studley, JD, Commission President | WSCUC

Reed Dasenbrock, PhD, Commission Chair | WSCUC

Mary Ellen Petrisko, PhD, Past Commission President | WSCUC

Christopher N. Oberg, PhD, Vice President/COO | WSCUC

William A. Ladusaw, PhD, Past Commission Chair | WSCUC

Third Party Comments:

Antoinette Flores, Senior Policy Analyst, Postsecondary Education | Center for American Progress  
Justin Cohen | Council for Education

## **Compliance Report | State Agency for the Approval of Public Postsecondary Education**

### **Oklahoma Board of Career and Technology Education**

Action for Consideration: Compliance report

Recommendation: Vote: 12-0

Grant the agency an extension of its recognition, for good cause, for six months, and require the agency to submit a report demonstrating its compliance with the cited criteria 30 days after the expiration of the one year period, with reconsideration of recognition status thereafter, including a review of the report and appearance by the agency at a NACIQI meeting to be designated by the Department.

Discussion:

NACIQI Primary Readers:

Richard F. O'Donnell

Federico Zaragoza

Representatives of the Agency:

Marcie Mack, State Director | Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education

Dawn M. Lindsley, Accreditation Manager | Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education

## **PANEL ON STUDENT-LEVEL DATA NETWORK**

NACIQI heard from a panel of experts regarding student-level data and the potentiality of a Federal student unit record database to inform policy makers and accreditors. Panel members included: Andrew Gillen, Independent Higher Education Researcher; Michael Itzkowitz, Independent Contractor and Senior Fellow for Third Way; Elise Miller, Vice President for Research and Policy Analysis, Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU); Christopher Sadler, Education Data and Privacy Fellow, New America; and Mamie Voight, Vice President of Policy Research, Institute for Higher Education Policy (IHEP).

Panel members shared information regarding the history and background of data collections by the U.S. Department of Education, and the evolution of these data to inform policy makers. Panel members also discussed limitations of the current data, the importance of obtaining quality data, how to mitigate privacy concerns, implications for accreditation, and what we can learn from other countries that have published performance data of educational institutions.

Presentation materials are accessible on the [NACIQI website](#) under "February 7-8, 2018 Meeting."

Third Party Comments:

Kim Dancy | Senior Policy Analyst | New America Education Policy Program

Katie Berger | Education Trust

Allie Aguilera | Young Invincibles

Bryan Wilson | Director of the Workforce Data Quality Campaign

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON REGULATORY REFORM**

Claude Pressnell, Chairman of the subcommittee on regulatory reform, reported out to the full Committee on draft recommendations to the Secretary of Education on regulatory reform in the accreditation space. Draft recommendations are available on the [NACIQI website](#) under “February 7-8, 2018 Meeting.” The Committee voted unanimously to accept the recommendations with minor edits. The final report will be available on the NACIQI website.

NACIQI also voted unanimously to set-up a subcommittee to provide more information regarding data. Chairman Keiser will appoint members to the subcommittee on data.