

From: David Nalbone
To: [Third Party Comments](#)
Subject: Written Statement: Oversight of For-Profit Institutions' Conversions to Non-Profit Entities
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The manner in which the Kaplan-Purdue approval occurred is quite disturbing. Concerning the transaction itself, the lack of transparency was, and remains, problematic. On the Purdue side, faculty were not given a chance to provide any input into the wisdom of alterations to curriculum or programs, nor were they allowed to weigh in on any other aspect of the proposed deal until after its approval. On the Kaplan side, there was a clear lack of transparency, and an attempt (ongoing) to paper over the long record of predatory actions, which will now be shielded from public scrutiny, as the Indiana legislature approved (on the same day as the Purdue-Kaplan announcement) an exemption from open records laws for public benefit corporations which the Kaplan entity (now Purdue Global) became. Such coordination among public entities, including a state legislature and a public university president, designed to conceal potentially bad actions from the public, deserves far greater scrutiny, and does not serve public interests.

Concerning the HLC, despite the fact that the meeting at which the Higher Learning Commission approved the Purdue-Kaplan deal was listed under a "notice of public meeting" on the HLC's website, I and others were denied entry to that meeting, despite repeated requests to petition to do so, while apparently meeting the HLC's stipulations for doing so. We were also told that the meeting was not, in fact, a public meeting. The HLC also rebuffed efforts to provide it with information concerning the proposed transaction, including the over 1800 signatories who expressed opposition to the deal (<https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/keep-purdue-public-tell-the-hlc-to-vote-no-on-purdue-kaplan-deal?source=email&>). Such lack of accountability on the part of an agency operating on behalf of the federal government requires further scrutiny.

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