Report of the Meeting

National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity
(NACIQI)

July 30-31, 2019

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Arthur E. Keiser, Ph.D., Chair
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DISCLAIMER

This report summarizes the deliberations of the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) at its July 30-31, 2019 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 July 30-31, 2019 meeting at the Hilton Hotel – Old Town Alexandria, 1767 King Street, Alexandria, VA.

NACIQI reviewed the following types of applications at its July 30-31, 2019 meeting:

- Seven applications for renewal of recognition from accrediting agencies;
- Four compliance reports from accrediting agencies;
- One initial application for recognition from an accrediting agency; and
- Two requests for an expansion of scope from accrediting agencies.

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 accreditsor data dashboards as part of its review process.

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

Diane Auer Jones, Principal Deputy Under Secretary Delegated the Duties to Perform the Duties of Under Secretary, updated the Committee regarding the Department’s proposed rules on accreditation and the negotiated rule-making Committee’s reaching consensus regarding the regulatory package.

The Subcommittee on Substantive Change, chaired by Claude Pressnell, reported out on its charge to further research the issue on substantive change broadly, and more specifically, the oversight of for-profit institutions’ conversions to non-profit entities to avoid regulatory scrutiny.

NACIQI members in attendance for all or part of the meeting included Arthur Keiser (Chair), Frank Wu (Vice Chair), Kathleen Sullivan Alioto, Simon Boehme, Jill Derby, Richard O’Donnell, Paul LeBlanc, Susan Phillips, Claude Pressnell, 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, Angela Sierra, Donna Mangold
(Office of the General Counsel), Karmon Simms-Coates, Elizabeth Daggett, Nicole Harris, Charity Helton, 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

Commission on English Language Program (CEA)
Action for Consideration: Compliance report
Recommendation: Vote: 11-0
Renew the agency’s recognition for three years.
NACIQI Primary Readers:
Claude Pressnell

The Council on Chiropractic Education (CCE)
Action for Consideration: Compliance report
Recommendation: Vote: 11-0
Renew the agency’s recognition for three years.
NACIQI Primary Readers:
Kathleen Sullivan Alioto
Simon Boehme

Expansion of Scope | Accrediting Agencies

Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc. (ACPEI)
Action for Consideration: Expansion of scope
Recommendation: Vote: 11-0
Approve the agency’s expansion of scope request for preaccreditation and distance education, with distance education subject to full review at the time of the agency's next renewal of recognition.
NACIQI Primary Readers:
Jill Derby
Anne Neal

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

Initial Recognition | Accrediting Agency

National League for Nursing Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation (CNEA)
Action for Consideration: Initial recognition
Recommendation: Vote: 11-0
Grant initial recognition for a period of two years for the preaccreditation and accreditation of nursing education programs, in the United States, which offer a certificate, diploma or degree
at the practical/vocational, diploma, associate, baccalaureate, masters, doctoral levels, including those programs offered via distance education. This recognition extends to the Appeals Panel.

NACIQI Primary Readers:
Paul LeBlanc
Susan Phillips

Representatives of the Agency:
Judith A. Halstead, Ph.D., RN, ANEF, FAAN | Executive Director, CNEA
Cathleen Shultz, Ph.D., RN, CNE, ANEF, FAAN | Professor Emeritus, Harding University Carr College of Nursing and CNEA Chair
Roseminda Santee, DNP, MA, NEA-BC, CNE, ANEF | Dean, Trinitas School of Nursing and CNEA Secretary

Compliance Report | Accrediting Agencies

**Middle States Commission on Secondary Schools (MSA-CSS)**

*Action for Consideration*: Compliance report

*Recommendation*: Vote: 10-0

Renew the agency’s recognition for three years.

NACIQI Primary Readers:
Jill Derby
Richard O’Donnell

Representatives of the Agency:
Lisa Marie McCauley, Ed.D., CPA | President, MSA-CESS
Kelly Christian | Director of Operations, MSA-CESS
Glen R. Mort, Ed.D. | Accreditation Officer, MSA-CESS
Craig J. Tice, Ph.D. | Superintendent, Fayetteville-Manlius and Commissioner, MSA-CESS

**Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)**

*Action for Consideration*: Compliance report

*Recommendation*: Vote: 4-3 (Recusals: Art Keiser, Claude Pressnell)

Renew the agency’s recognition for three years.

NACIQI Primary Readers:
Ralph Wolff
Frank Wu

Representatives of the Agency:
Belle S. Wheelan | President, SACSCOC
Rosalind R. Fuse-Hall | Director, SACSCOC
Renewal of Recognition | Accrediting Agencies

Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training (ACCET)
Action for Consideration: Renewal of recognition
NACIQI Recommendation: Vote: 11-0
Renew the agency’s recognition for five years.
NACIQI Primary Readers:
Anne D. Neal
Representatives of the Agency:
William V. Larkin, Ed.D. | Executive Director, ACCET
Paul Dunlop | Chair, ACCET
Judy Hendrickson | Deputy Executive Director, ACCET
John Shaheen | Associate Executive Director, ACCET
Linsay Oakden | Assistant Executive Director, ACCET

American Veterinary Medical Association, Council on Education (AVMA-COE)
Action for Consideration: Renewal of recognition
Committee Recommendation: Vote: 11-0
Renew the agency’s recognition for five years.
NACIQI Primary Readers:
Paul LeBlanc
Frank Wu
Representatives of the Agency:
Spencer A. Johnston, VMD, DACVS | Vice Chair, AVMA-COE
Kevin B. Donnelly, DVM, Ph.D., DABT | Member, AVMA-COE
Karen Martens Brandt, DVM | Director, Education and Research, AVMA

Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH)
Action for Consideration: Renewal of recognition
Committee Recommendation: Vote: 11-0
Renew the agency’s recognition for five years.
NACIQI Primary Readers:
Richard O’Donnell
Ralph Wolff
Representatives of the Agency:
Laura Rasar King, Executive Director, Interim | CEPH

National Association of Schools of Dance, Commission on Accreditation (NASD)
Action for Consideration: Renewal of recognition
Committee Recommendation: Vote: 6-0
Continue the agency’s recognition as a nationally recognized accrediting agency at this time and require the agency to come into compliance within 12 months with the criterion listed below and submit a compliance report due 30 days thereafter that demonstrates the agency’s compliance.
National Association of Schools of Music, Commission on Accreditation (NASM)
Action for Consideration: Renewal of recognition
Committee Recommendation: Vote: 6-0
Continue the agency's recognition as a nationally recognized accrediting agency at this time and require the agency to come into compliance within 12 months with the criterion listed below and submit a compliance report due 30 days thereafter that demonstrates the agency's compliance.

National Association of Schools of Theatre, Commission on Accreditation (NAST)
Action for Consideration: Renewal of recognition
Committee Recommendation: Vote: 6-0
Continue the agency's recognition as a nationally recognized accrediting agency at this time and require the agency to come into compliance within 12 months with the criterion listed below and submit a compliance report due 30 days thereafter that demonstrates the agency's compliance.

Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC)
Action for Consideration: Renewal of recognition and Expansion of Scope
NACIQI Recommendation: Vote: 7-2 (Recusals: Alioto)
Renew the agency's recognition for five years and approve the agency's request for an expansion of scope.
Diane Auer Jones, Principal Deputy Under Secretary Delegated the Duties to Perform the Duties of the Under Secretary, addressed NACIQI and the public regarding the Administration’s negotiated rule-making efforts around accreditation, and the consensus language that was reached by the negotiated rule-making Committee. She also announced the release of the newly-revised Accreditation Handbook.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE

The Subcommittee on Substantive Change, chaired by Claude Pressnell, reported out to the full Committee regarding its recommendations regarding substantive change generally, and the review process for conversions of for-profit institutions into non-profit entities. The full report is available in the “meeting records” section of the NACIQI website.

Third Party Comments:

1) Bernard Fryshman, Interim Executive Director | Association of Advanced Rabbinical and Talmudic Schools

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ACCREDITING AGENCY OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNANCE

During the deliberation on SACSCOC, the Committee moved and voted unanimously to create a Subcommittee on Governance and Political Influence to look into the issue of accrediting agency oversight of governance and political influence [at the institutions they accredit]. This subcommittee will be chaired by Richard O’Donnell.