**NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONAL QUALITY AND INTEGRITY ANNUAL REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION, CONGRESS AND THE PUBLIC**



***in response to***

**Section 114(e) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended**

**United States Department of Education   
Office of Postsecondary Education  
September 2020**

**NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONAL QUALITY AND INTEGRITY ANNUAL**

**REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION, CONGRESS, AND THE PUBLIC**

**Overview**

The National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI or the Committee) respectfully submits this fiscal year 2020 report on its activities during fiscal year (FY) 2019 to the Secretary of Education (Secretary) and to Congress. Section 114(e)(2) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA), mandates that NACIQI produce an annual report that contains four items:

* A detailed summary of the agenda and activities of, and the findings and recommendations made by, the Committee during the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year in which the report is made;
* A list of the date and location of each meeting during the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year in which the report is made;
* A list of the members of the Committee; and
* A list of the functions of the Committee, including any additional functions established by the Secretary through regulation.

# Committee Agenda and Activities During Fiscal Year 2019

Due to complications related to a government shutdown, NACIQI held only one meeting during FY 2019:

* + July 30-31, 2019

The meeting agenda is provided with this report (Attachment A).

The sole 2019 NACIQI meeting was held in the Washington, DC, area. NACIQI deliberated on accrediting agency submissions and advised the senior Department official on matters concerning accreditation, the recognition process, and the eligibility and certification process for institutions under Title IV of the HEA.

During FY 2019, NACIQI reviewed the following types of applications:

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

NACIQI reviewed all information submitted by an agency in support of its petition, as well as the staff analysis, and public comments.

NACIQI heard from a third-party commenter listed on the meeting agenda in FY 2019.

The Subcommittee on Substantive Change made a report to the full committee, including but not limited to proprietary institutions’ conversions to nonprofit entities.

The Committee moved and voted unanimously to create a Subcommittee on Governance to research the role of political influence in accrediting agencies’ actions. The subcommittee is chaired by Richard O’Donnell.

The Principal Deputy Under Secretary, who is also Delegated the Duties to Perform the Duties of Under Secretary, Diane Auer Jones, provided remarks on the Administration’s implementation of regulations under 34 CFR part 602; the Department reached consensus on rules governing the Secretary’s recognition process in April 2019.

Through its Pilot Plan, NACIQI continued to review (1) decision activities and data gathered by agencies; (2) standards and practices regarding student achievement; and (3) agency activities to improve program/institutional quality.

A summary of the Committee’s deliberations and recommendations regarding each agency review is provided with this report (Attachment B).

# Date and Location of NACIQI Meeting

July 30-31, 2019 Hilton Hotel-Old Town Alexandria Grand Ballroom

1767 King Street

Alexandria, VA 22314

# Committee Membership

NACIQI has 18 members appointed as follows:

* Six members appointed by the Secretary;
* Six members appointed by the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, three of whom are appointed on the recommendation of the majority leader of the U.S. House of

Representatives and three of whom are appointed on the recommendation of the minority leader of the U.S. House of Representatives; and

* Six members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the U.S. Senate, three of whom are appointed on the recommendation of the majority leader of the U.S. Senate and three of whom are appointed on the recommendation of the minority leader of the U.S. Senate.

Please refer to Attachment C for a list of NACIQI members, including the nominating source for each member, for fiscal year 2019.

# Committee Functions

NACIQI was established by Section 114 of the HEA of 1965, as amended by Section 106 of the Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA). By law, NACIQI advises the Secretary with respect to the following functions:

1. The establishment and enforcement of the standards of accrediting agencies or associations under Subpart 2 of Part H of Title IV, HEA;
2. The recognition of a specific accrediting agency or association;
3. The preparation and publication of the list of nationally recognized accrediting agencies and associations;
4. The eligibility and certification process for institutions of higher education under Title IV, HEA, together with recommendations for improvements in such process;
5. The relationship between:
   1. Accreditation of institutions of higher education and the certification and eligibility of such institutions;
   2. State licensing responsibilities with respect to such institutions; and
6. Other advisory functions relating to accreditation and institutional eligibility as the Secretary may prescribe by regulation.

The Secretary has not prescribed any other advisory functions relating to accreditation and institutional eligibility by regulation for NACIQI.

# Sources of Additional Information about the Committee

For additional information concerning the Committee’s activities, please visit the NACIQI website at <http://sites.ed.gov/naciqi/>, or contact the Executive Director whose contact information is listed below.

George Alan Smith, Ed.D. Executive Director, NACIQI

U.S. Department of Education

400 Maryland Ave., SW, Room 271-03

Washington, DC 20202

Phone: (202) 453-7757

E-mail: [george.alan.smith@ed.gov](mailto:george.alan.smith@ed.gov)

Attachment A

U.S. Department of Education Office of Postsecondary Education

**NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONAL QUALITY AND INTEGRITY (NACIQI)**

### July 30 & 31, 2019

8:30am-5:00pm

Hilton Hotel - Old Town Alexandria 1767 King Street

Grand Ballroom Alexandria, VA 22314

NOTE: Dates and times listed for agenda items are subject to change.

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| **Day 1** I **Tuesday, July 30th** |  |
| **8:30 a.m.** I **Welcome and Introductions** | Jennifer Hong I NAClQI Executive Director Arthur Keiser I NACIQI Chairman |
| **Accreditation Rules Effective July 2020** | Diane Auer Jones I Principal Deputy Under Secretary Delegated the Duties to Perform the Duties of Under Secretary |
| **Consent Agenda and Procedures** | Arthur Keiser I NACIQI Chairman   * Call for third-party oral comments * Call for removal of any items from the consent agenda * Move and second consent agenda * Call for vote on the consent agenda |
| **Consent Agenda** I **Compliance Report**   1. **The Council on Chiropractic Education (CCE)** 2. **Commission on English Language Program Accreditation (CEA)** 3. **Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc.,** | NACIQI Primary Readers:   1. (CCE) Simon Boehme, Kathleen Sullivan Alioto 2. (CEA) John Etchemendy, Claude Pressnell 3. (ACPE) Jill Derby, Anne Neal   Department Staff:   1. CCE) Chuck Mula 2. (CELP) Chuck Mula 3. (ACPE) Valerie Lefor |

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| **Accreditation Commission (ACPE)** |  |
| **Standard Review Procedures** | Arthur Keiser I NACIQI Chairman   * Primary readers introduce agency application. * Department staff provides briefing. * Agency representatives provide comments. * Primary readers' questions of the agency (include standard questions adopted by NACIQI for initial and renewal applications). * Questions by NACIQI followed by response and comment from agency. * Third-party comments. * Agency responds to third-party comments. * Department staff responds to agency and third -party comments. * Discussion and vote. * Final set of standard questions on improving institution/program quality for initial and renewal applications. |
| **Renewal of Recognition and Expansion of Scope I Western**  **Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC)** | NACIQI Primary Readers:  Claude Pressnell  Federico Zaragoza  Department Staff:  Elizabeth Daggett  Agency Representatives:   * Richard A. Winn, Ed.D. I President, ACCJC * Stephanie Droker, Ed.D. I Senior Vice President, ACCJC * Ian Walton, Ph.D. I Chair, ACCJC * Sonya Christian I Vice Chair, ACCJC * Mary A.Y. Okada, Ed.D. I President, Guam Community College I Secretary/Treasurer, ACCJC |
| **Renewal of Recognition** I **Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training (ACCET)** | NACIQI Primary Readers:  John Etchemendy  Anne D. Neal  Department Staff:  Valerie Lefor |

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|  | Agency Representatives:   * William V. Larkin, Ed.D. I Executive Director, ACCET * Paul Dunlop IChair, ACCET * Judy Hendrickson I Deputy Executive Director, ACCET * John Shahen I Associate Executive Director, ACCET * Linsay Oakden I Assistant Executive Director, ACCET |
| **LUNCH** |  |
| **1:00pm I Renewal of Recognition American Veterinary Medical Association, Council on Education (AVMA-COE)** | NACIQI Primary Readers:  Paul LeBlanc  Frank Wu  Department Staff:  Nicole Harris  Agency Representatives:   * Spencer A. Johnston, VMD, DACVS I Vice Chair, AVMA-COE * Kevin B. Donnelly, DVM, Ph.D., DABT I Member, AVMA-COE * Karen Martens Brandt, DVM l Director, Education and Research, AVMA |
| **Renewal of Recognition I Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH)** | NACIQI Primary Readers:  Richard O'Donnell  Ralph Wolff  Department Staff:  Stephanie McKissic  Agency Representatives:  Laura Rasar King I Executive Director, CEPH |
| **Subcommittee on Substantive Change** | Claude Pressnell I Subcommittee Chairman  Oral Commenters:  Bernard Fryshman, Interim Executive Director I Association of Advanced Rabbinical and Talmudic Schools |

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| **Day 2 I Wednesday, Jul 31st** |  |
| **8:30 a.m. I Welcome and Introductions** | Jennifer Hong I NACIQI Executive Director  Arthur Keiser I NACIQI Chairman |
| **Standard Review Procedures** | Arthur Keiser I NACIQI Chairman   * Primary readers introduce agency application. * Department staff provides briefing. * Agency representatives provide comments. * Primary readers' questions of the agency (include. standard questions adopted by NACIQI for initial and renewal applications). * Questions by NACIQI followed by response and comment from agency. * Third-party comments. * Agency responds to third-party comments. * Department staff responds to agency and third- party comments. * Discussion and vote. * Final set of standard questions on improving institution/program quality for initial and renewal applications. |
| **Initial Recognition I National League for Nursing Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation (CNEA)** | NACIQI Primary Readers:  Paul LeBlanc  Susan Phillips  Department Staff:  Elizabeth Daggett  Agency Representatives:   * Judith A. Halstead, Ph.D., RN, ANEF, FAAN IExecutive Director, CNEA * Cathleen Shultz, Ph.D., RN, CNE, ANEF, FAAN IProfessor Emeritus, Harding University Carr College of Nursing and CNEA Chair * Roseminda Santee, ONP, MA, NEA-BC, CNE, ANEF I Dean, Trinitas School of Nursing and CNEA Secretary |
| **Compliance Report I Middle States**  **Commission on Secondary Schools (MSA-CESS)** | NACIQl Primary Readers:  Jill Derby  Richard O'Donnell |

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|  | Department Staff:  Chuck Mula  Agency Representatives:   * Lisa Marie McCauley, Ed.D., CPA I President, MSA- CESS * Kelly Christian I Director of Operations, MSA-CESS * Glen R. Mort, Ed.D. I Accreditation Officer, MSA-CESS * Craig J. Tice, Ph.D. I Superintendent, Fayetteville- Manlius and Commissioner, MSA-CESS |
| **Compliance Report** I **Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges**  **(SACSCOC)** | NACIQI Primary Readers:  Ralph Wolff  Frank Wu  Department Staff:  Nicole Harris  Agency Representatives:   * Belle S. Wheelan I President, SACSCOC * Rosalind R. Fuse-Hall I Director, SACSCOC |
| **11 :30am** I **Ethics Training (Committee Only)**  **LUNCH** |  |
| **1:00pm I Renewal of Recognition I**  **National Association of Schools of Dance, Commission on Accreditation (NASD)** | NACIQI Primary Readers:  George French Anne Neal  Department Staff:  Chuck Mula  Agency Representatives:   * Karen P. Moynahan I Executive Director, NASD * Richard F. Mann I legal Counsel, Keller and Heckman, LLP |
| **Renewal of Recognition** I **National Association of Schools of Music, Commission on Accreditation**  **(NASM)** | NACIQI Primary Readers:  Simon Boehme  Susan Phillips |

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|  | Department Staff:  Stephanie McKissic  Agency Representatives:   * Karen P. Moynahan I Executive Director, NASM * Richard F. Mann I Legal Counsel, Keller and Heckman, LLP |
| **Renewal of Recognition I National**  **Association of Schools of Theatre, Commission on Accreditation (NAST)** | NAClQI Primary Readers:  George French  Kathleen Sullivan Alioto  Department Staff:  Charity Helton  Agency Representatives:   * Karen P. Moynahan I Executive Director, NAST * Richard F. Mann l Legal Counsel, Keller and Heckman, LLP |

Attachment B

### SUMMARY OF AGENCY-RELATED ACTIONS

(\*In alphabetical order.)

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

### Compliance Reports I 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 I 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 NACIQl's standard review procedures:

### Initial Recognition I 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 I Executive Director, CNEA

Cathleen Shultz, Ph.D., RN, CNE, ANEF, FAAN I Professor Emeritus, Harding University Carr College of Nursing and CNEA Chair

Roseminda Santee, DNP, MA, NEA-BC, CNE, ANEF I Dean, Trinitas School of Nursing and CNEA Secretary

**Compliance Report** I **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 I President, MSA-CESS

Kelly Christian I Director of Operations, MSA-CESS Glen R. Mort, Ed.D. I Accreditation Officer, MSA-CESS

Craig J. Tice, Ph.D. I 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 I President, SACSCOC Rosalind R. Fuse-Hall I Director, SACSCOC

## Renewal of Recognition I 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. I Executive Director, ACCET Paul Dunlop I Chair, ACCET

Judy Hendrickson I Deputy Executive Director, ACCET John Shaheen I Associate Executive Director, ACCET Linsay Oakden I 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 I Vice Chair, AVMA-COE Kevin B. Donnelly, DVM, Ph.D., DABT I Member, AVMA-COE

Karen Martens Brandt, DVM I 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 I 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 34 C.F.R. § 602.20(a) and submit a compliance report due 30 days thereafter that demonstrates the agency's compliance.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

Anne D. Neal

Representatives of the Agency:

Karen P. Moynahan I Executive Director, NASAD

Richard F. Mann I Legal Counsel, Keller and Heckman, LLP

## 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 34 C.F.R. § 602.20(a) and submit a compliance report due 30 days thereafter that demonstrates the agency's compliance.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

Simon Boehme Susan Phillips

Representatives of the Agency:

Karen P. Moynahan I Executive Director, NASAD

Richard F. Mann I Legal Counsel, Keller and Heckman, LLP

## 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 34 C.F.R. § 602.20(a) and submit a compliance report due 30 days thereafter that demonstrates the agency's compliance.

NACIQI Primary Readers: Kathleen Sullivan Alioto

Representatives of the Agency:

Karen P. Moynahan, Executive Director I NASAD

Richard F. Mann, Legal Counsel I Keller and Heckman LLP

## 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

NACIQI Primary Readers:

Claude Pressnell Federico Zaragoza

Representatives of the Agency:

Richard A. Winn, Ed.D. I President, ACCJC

Stephanie Droker, Ed.D. I Senior Vice President, ACCJC Ian Walton, Ph.D. I Chair, ACCJC

Sonya Christian I Vice Chair, ACCJC

Mary A.Y. Okada, Ed.D. I President, Guam Community College I Secretary/Treasurer, ACCJC

Attachment C



**U. S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Office of Postsecondary Education

**NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONAL QUALITY AND INTEGRITY**

**List of Members, July 2019**

1. **Kathleen Sullivan Alioto** (House Democrat)
2. **Simone Boehme** (Education Department)
3. **Ronnie L. Booth** (Education Department)
4. **Jill Derby** (Senate Democrat)
5. **John Etchemendy** (Education Department)
6. **George T. French, Jr.** (House Democrat)
7. **Brian W. Jones** (House Republican)
8. **Arthur** E. **Keiser** (House Republican)
9. **Paul J. LeBlanc** (Senate Democrat)
10. **Anne D. Neal** (Senate Republican)
11. **Richard F. O'Donnell** (Senate Republican)
12. **Susan Phillips** (Education Department)
13. **Claude O. Pressnell, Jr.** (Senate Republican)
14. **Steven VanAusdle** (Senate Democrat)
15. **Ralph Wolff** (House Democrat)
16. **Frank Wu** (Education Department)
17. **Federico Zaragoza** (Education Department)