

**Report of the Meeting**

**National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity**

**December 12-13, 2013**



/s/

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Susan D. Phillips, Chair

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National Advisory Committee  
on Institutional Quality and Integrity

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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Page

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** .....5

**SUMMARY OF AGENCY-RELATED ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**I. Petitions for Renewal of Recognition as Nationally Recognized Accrediting Agencies including any Expansion/Contraction or Revision in the Scope of Recognition as Currently Written.**

Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COANAEP) .....7

Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) .....8

Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) .....8

Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (WASC-ACCJC)..... 10

**II. Renewal of Recognition as Nationally Recognized Accrediting Agencies Based on Review of the Agency’s Compliance Report**

American Podiatric Medical Association (APMA).....12

Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc. (ACPEI).....13

Commission on English Language Program Accreditation (CEA).....13

Council on Chiropractic Education (CCE).....13

Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT) ..... 15

Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education (MACTE).....16

**III. Petition for Renewal of Recognition of a State Agency Recognized for the Approval of Nurse Education**

North Dakota Board of Nursing (NDBN).....16

**IV. Renewal of Recognition as a State Agency Recognized for the Approval of Nurse Education Based on Review of the Agency’s Compliance Report**

New York State Board of Regents (Nursing Education) (NYBRN).....17

**V. Renewal of Recognition as a State Agency Recognized for the Approval of Vocational Education Based on Review of the Agency’s Compliance Report**

New York State Board of Regents (Vocational Education) (NYBRVE).....17

Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education (ODTCE).....18

Pennsylvania State Board for Vocational Education, Bureau of Career and Technical Education (PABCTE).....18

## DISCLAIMER

This report was written as a part of the activities of the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI), an independent advisory committee established by statute. The NACIQI is subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act and the regulations implementing that statute. 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

### *Background:*

The National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI or the Committee), was established by Section 114 of the Higher Education Act (HEA) of 1965, as amended by the Higher Education Amendments of 1992 and, most recently, Section 106 of the Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA). The HEOA made changes to section 496 of the HEA “Recognition of Accrediting Agency or Association” and suspended the activities of the NACIQI upon enactment on August 14, 2008. It also changed the composition of the Committee by increasing the membership from 15 to 18 and shifting appointment authority that had been vested solely in the Secretary to the Secretary, the President pro tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House, each of whom may appoint six members. Also, rather than having the Secretary appoint the Chair, the HEOA required the members to elect a Chair. In July 2010, new regulations went into effect that govern the process by which accrediting agencies seek recognition by the Secretary as a reliable authority regarding the quality of education and training provided by an institution (or program) they accredit.

Chief among its statutory functions is the Committee’s responsibility to advise the Secretary of Education, or his designee, the Senior Department Official (the Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education), regarding the recognition of specific accrediting agencies or associations, or specific State approval agencies, as reliable authorities concerning the quality of education and training offered by the postsecondary educational institutions and programs they accredit. Another function of the NACIQI is to advise the Secretary on the establishment and enforcement of the Criteria for Recognition of accrediting agencies or associations under Subpart 2, Part H, Title IV, of the HEA. The NACIQI also provides advice to the Secretary regarding policy affecting both recognition of accrediting and State approval agencies and institutional eligibility for participation in programs authorized under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended. The NACIQI is required by law to meet at least twice a year.

### *Discussion:*

At its December 12-13, 2013 meeting, held at the Liaison Hotel-Capitol Hill, Washington, DC, the Committee met to carry out its duties to advise the Assistant Secretary with respect to the recognition of accrediting agencies and State approval agencies. Preceding its review of agencies for recognition, the Committee elected Dr. Susan D. Phillips as its NACIQI Chairperson and Dr. Arthur E. Keiser as its Vice Chairperson. Also, during the meeting, Undersecretary Kanter spoke to the Committee in public forum regarding her tenure at the Department and ideas for moving accreditation policy forward.

The Committee reviewed petitions for renewal of recognition from 15 accrediting and state approval agencies. Of these, eight renewals for recognition were based on a compliance report. In all but one instance, the Northwest Commission of Colleges and Universities (NWCCU), the Committee’s recommendations are the same as the staff recommendations

NACIQI members in attendance for all or part of the meeting included Susan D. Phillips (Chair), Arthur E. Keiser (Vice Chair), William Armstrong, Simon J. Boehme, Jill Derby, Roberta L. Derlin, George T. French, Jr., William “Brit” Kirwan, Anne D. Neal, Richard F. O’ Donnell, Arthur J. Rothkopf, Cameron C. Staples, Lawrence Vanderhoef, Carolyn Williams, Frank H. Wu, and Federico Zaragoza.

U.S. Department of Education personnel who participated in the meeting included: Committee Executive Director Carol Griffiths, Accreditation Director Kay Gilcher, Program Attorney Sarah Wanner, Office of Postsecondary Education staff: Herman Bounds, Elizabeth Daggett, Karen Duke, Jennifer Hong-Silwany, Patricia Howes, Charles Mula, Steve Porcelli, Cathy Sheffield, and Rachael Shultz.

## **THE RECOGNITION OF ACCREDITING AGENCIES AND STATE APPROVAL AGENCIES:**

The Committee reviewed petitions and reports from 15 agencies – ten accrediting agencies, three State approval agencies for vocational education and two state approval agencies for nurse education.

### *Summary of Agency-Related Actions Taken by the Committee:*

#### **I. Petitions for Renewal of Recognition as Nationally Recognized Accrediting Agencies including any Expansion/Contraction or Revision in the Scope of Recognition as Currently Written.**

##### **Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COANAEP)**

Action for Consideration: Petition for Renewal Recognition.

Current and Requested Scope of Recognition: The accreditation of institutions and programs of nurse anesthesia at the post master's certificate, master's, or doctoral degree levels in the United States, and its territories, including programs offering distance education.

Committee Recommendation: Vote: 14-0

NACIQI recommends that the COANAEP's recognition be continued and require the agency to come into compliance within 12 months, and submit a compliance report that demonstrates the agency's compliance with the issues identified in the staff report.

Comments: The Committee found the agency to be operating in compliance with the criteria for recognition, except for the issues identified below:

§602.22(a)(3) §602.26(b)

The Committee had no questions for the staff or the agency pertaining to the agency's petition.

Written Materials Reviewed by the Committee: Petition and supporting documentation submitted by the agency and the Department staff analysis and report.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

Richard O'Donnell; Arthur Rothkopf; Simon Boehme

Representatives of the Agency:

Kathleen A. Cook, Chair, COANAEP

Kay K. Sanders, Vice- chair, COANAEP

Francis Gerbasi, Executive Director, COANAEP

## **Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH)**

Action for Consideration: Petition for Renewal of Recognition.

Current and Requested Scope of Recognition: The accreditation within the United States of schools of public health and public health programs outside schools of public health, at the baccalaureate and graduate degree levels, including those offered via distance education.

Committee Recommendation: Vote: 14-0

NACIQI recommends that the Secretary accept the recommendation as stated on the Consent Agenda. [NOTE: For this agency, the Consent Agenda contained the specific recommendation to renew the agency's recognition for a period of five years.]

Comments: The Committee found the agency to be operating in compliance with the criteria for recognition. There was no further discussion of the agency's report.

Written Materials Reviewed by the Committee: Petition and supporting documentation submitted by the agency and the Department staff analysis and report.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

George French; Carolyn Williams

Representatives of the Agency:

Laura Rasar King, Executive Director, CEPH

## **Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU)**

Action for Consideration: Petition for Renewal of Recognition.

Current and Requested Scope of Recognition: The accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidacy status") of postsecondary degree-granting educational institutions in Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington, and the accreditation of programs offered via distance education within these institutions.

Committee Recommendation: Vote: 10-1

NACIQI recommends that the Assistant Secretary continue the agency's recognition and require the agency to come into compliance within 12 months, and submit a compliance report 30 days thereafter, that demonstrates the agency's compliance with the criteria cited in the staff report with the exception of 602.15(a)(3) and 602.16(b)and(c). Such continuation shall be effective until the Department reaches final decision.

Extend the agency's time for coming into compliance under section 602.23(c) for good cause, and require the agency to demonstrate compliance under that section in such compliance report within 12 months.

Per agency request, it has withdrawn its request for an expansion of scope to include correspondence education.

Comments: The Committee found the agency to be operating in compliance with the criteria for recognition, except for the issues listed below.

§602.15(a)(5)	§602.16(a)(1)(ix)	§602.18(e)	§602.19(b)	§602.19(d)
§602.20(b)	§602.23(c)	§602.24(a)	§602.24(b)	§602.26(d)

Committee inquiry included a concern, stated by one Committee member, regarding institutions' student achievement rates that the member identified as a 4-year graduation rate below 20% in 43 of the agency's 146 accredited institutions. The Committee also queried the agency regarding its application and documentation of its complaint review policies and procedures (602.23(c)) and its monitoring of its accredited institutions.

The Committee's recommendation concurs with the Department staff recommendation in so far as the Committee concurs that the agency's recognition be continued and that the agency be required to submit a compliance report.

The Committee also concurs that the timeframe for addressing the agency's compliance with section 602.23(c) (originally identified in a complaint during the review period), be extended in order to be addressed in the compliance report.

However, the Committee does not concur that the agency is non-compliant with criteria 602.15(a) (3) and 602.16(b) and(c).

602.15(a)(3): The staff finding noted that the agency needs to provide the roster for its executive committee to demonstrate that it includes both academic and administrative personnel on this decision-making body. During its review, Director Gilcher confirmed that the agency did include the required evidence in its petition. Therefore, the Committee concludes that the agency does comply with the requirement and does not need to address this criterion nor resubmit evidence of compliance.

602.16(b) and (c): The staff finding was predicated on the agency's request to expand its scope of recognition to include correspondence education. During the Committee's deliberation, the agency withdrew its request for an expansion of scope to include correspondence education, rendering the criterion not applicable. Therefore, the Committee concludes that there is no reason for them to respond to that particular section.

For the reasons above, the Committee believes its recommendation to the Assistant Secretary to continue the agency's recognition and require the agency to come into compliance within 12 months, and submit a compliance report 30 days thereafter, that demonstrates the agency's compliance with the criteria cited in the staff report with the exception of 602.15(a) (3) and 602.16(b) and(c) is the most appropriate recommendation.

Written Materials Reviewed by the Committee: Petition and supporting documentation submitted by the agency and the Department staff analysis and report.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

William Armstrong; William Britt Kirwan

Representatives of the Agency:

Joe Brimhall, Chair, NWCCU

Sandra Elman, President, NWCCU

Les Steele, Executive Vice President, NWCCU

Pam Goad, Vice President, NWCCU

Third Party Commenter:

Mr. Phillip Cole, Professor, Idaho State University

**Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (WASC-ACCJC)**

Action for Consideration: Petition for Renewal of Recognition.

Current Scope of Recognition: The accreditation and preaccreditation (“Candidate for Accreditation”) of two-year, associate degree-granting institutions located in California, Hawaii, the United States territories of Guam and American Samoa, the Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands, including the accreditation of such programs offered via distance education at these colleges.

Requested Scope of Recognition: The accreditation and preaccreditation (“Candidate for Accreditation”) of community and other colleges with a primarily pre-baccalaureate mission located in California, Hawaii, the United States territories of Guam and American Samoa, the Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands, which offer certificates, associate degrees, and may offer bachelor’s degrees within the institutional scope, and the accreditation of such programs offered via distance education and correspondence education at these colleges. This recognition also extends to the Committee on Substantive Change of the Commission, for decisions on substantive changes.

Committee Recommendation: Vote: 11-0

NACIQI recommends that the Assistant Secretary continue the agency’s recognition and require the agency to come into compliance within 12 months, and submit a compliance report that demonstrates the agency's compliance with all issues in the staff report.

Further move that the NACIQI recommends that the Assistant Secretary deny the expansion of scope as articulated by the agency and grant an expansion of scope as recommended by the Department staff –

“The accreditation and preaccreditation (“Candidate for Accreditation”) of community and other colleges with a primarily pre-baccalaureate mission located in California, Hawaii, the United

States territories of Guam and American Samoa, the Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands, which offer certificates, associate degrees, and the first baccalaureate degree by means of a substantive change review offered by institutions that are already accredited by the agency, and such programs offered via distance education and correspondence education at these colleges. This recognition also extends to the Committee on Substantive Change of the Commission, for decisions on substantive changes, and the Appeals Panel”.

Comments: The Committee found the agency to be operating in compliance with the criteria for recognition, except for the issues listed below.

§602.12(b)	§602.13	§602.15(a)(3)	§602.16(a)(1)(i)	§602.16(a)(1)(ii)
§602.16(a)(1)(iii)	§602.17(a)	§602.17(f)	§602.18(e)	§602.19(b)
§602.20(a)	§602.20(b)	§602.21(c)	§602.25(a-e)	§602.26(b)

The Committee heard testimony from 20 third-party commenters representing the individuals and associations listed below. Testimony included both positive and negative comments regarding the agency, though the preponderance of negative comment was forwarded by advocates for the Community College of San Francisco (CCSF). Commenters concerns include a lack of wide acceptance by the higher education community of its standards, policies, processes and decisions; the impact on students by the loss of affordable quality education as a result of WASC- ACCJC decisions; the agency’s lack of transparency and integrity in the accreditation process resulting in inconsistent application of its standards; the agency’s interference in institutional governance; and its promotion of a “culture of fear.”

The Committee’s discussion focused on clarifying and assessing the issues raised by the commenters as well as questioning the staff and agency on various specific compliance issues to include the agency’s accreditation of the bachelor degree via the agency substantive change processes; composition of its site teams; measurement of acceptable student achievement rates; and the agency’s role in institutional governance.

Written Materials Reviewed by the Committee: Petition and supporting documentation submitted by the agency and the Department staff analysis and report.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

Arthur Keiser; Anne Neal; Roberta Derlin

Representatives of the Agency:

Barbara A. Beno, President, ACCJC  
Krista Johns, Vice President, ACCJC  
Sherrill Amador, Chair, ACCJC  
Kate Lipper, Policy and Legal Advisor, Education Counsel, LLC  
Steve Winnick, Policy and Legal Advisor, Education Counsel, LLC

Third Party Commenter:

Ms. Loana Bonilla, Student Association, CCSF  
Mr. V. Tarikhu Farrar, Instructor, CCSF

Ms. Lizette Garcia, Student, CCSF  
Ms. Lalo Gonzalez, Student, CCSF  
Ms. Itzel Calvo Medina, Student, CCSF  
Ms. Sharon Shatterly, Student VP of Finance, CCSF  
Dr. Douglas Yoder  
Ms. Alisa Messer, President, AFT 2121, CCSF  
Mr. Joshua Pechthalt, President, California Federation of Teachers  
Mr. Craig Smith, Director, Higher Education Department of the American Federation of Teachers  
Ms. Shanell Williams, Student Trustee, CCSF  
Ms. Wendy Kaufmyn, Engineering Instructor, CCSF  
Mr. Martin Madrigal, Veteran, Student Representative, CCSF  
Ms. Saginor, Librarian, CCSF  
Ms. Muriel Parenteau, Department Chair, Disabled Students Programs and Services, CCSF  
Mr. Michael Solow, Faculty, CCSF  
Mr. Thomas Henry, Special Trustee, Compton Community College District and College  
Mr. Raul Rodriguez, Chancellor, Rancho Santiago Community College District  
Mr. Cookab Hashemi, on behalf of Congresswoman Jackie Peier  
Ms. Meredith Staples, Representative, Service Employee International Union

## **II. Renewal of Recognition as Nationally Recognized Accrediting Agencies Based on Review of the Agency's Compliance Report**

### **American Podiatric Medical Association (APMA)**

Action for Consideration: Renewal of Recognition after Review of the Compliance Report.

Current and Requested Scope of Recognition: The accreditation and preaccreditation ("Provisional Accreditation") throughout the United States of freestanding colleges of podiatric medicine and programs of podiatric medicine, including first professional programs leading to the degree of Doctor of Podiatric Medicine.

Committee Recommendation: Vote: 14-0

NACIQI recommends that the Secretary accept the recommendation as stated on the Consent Agenda. [NOTE: For this agency, the Consent Agenda contained the specific recommendation to renew the agency's recognition for a period of three years.]

Comments: There were no compliance issues and no further discussion of the agency's report.

Written Materials Reviewed by the Committee: Compliance report and supporting documentation submitted by the agency, and the Department staff analysis and report.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

William Armstrong; Roberta Derlin; Susan Phillips

### **Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc. (ACPEI)**

Action for Consideration: Renewal of Recognition after Review of the Compliance Report.

Current and Requested Scope of Recognition: The accreditation of both clinical pastoral education (CPE) centers and Supervisory CPE programs located within the United States and territories.

Committee Recommendation: Vote: 14-0

NACIQI recommends that the Secretary accept the recommendation as stated on the Consent Agenda. [NOTE: For this agency, the Consent Agenda contained the specific recommendation to renew the agency's recognition for a period of three and a half years.]

Comments: There were no compliance issues and no further discussion of the agency's report.

Written Materials Reviewed by the Committee: Compliance report and supporting documentation submitted by the agency, and the Department staff analysis and report.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

Larry Vanderhoef; Frank Wu

### **Commission on English Language Program Accreditation (CEA)**

Action for Consideration: Renewal of Recognition after Review of the Compliance Report.

Current and Requested Scope of Recognition: The accreditation of postsecondary, non-degree-granting English language programs and institutions in the United States.

Committee Recommendation: Vote of 14-0

NACIQI recommends that the Secretary accept the recommendation as stated on the Consent Agenda. [NOTE: For this agency, the Consent Agenda contained the specific recommendation to renew the agency's recognition for a period of three years.]

Comments: There were no compliance issues and no further discussion of the agency's report.

Written Materials Reviewed by the Committee: Petition and supporting documentation submitted by the agency and the Department staff analysis and report.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

Anne Neal; Carolyn Williams

### **Council on Chiropractic Education (CCE)**

Action for Consideration: Renewal of Recognition after Review of the Compliance Report.

Current and Requested Scope of Recognition: The accreditation of programs leading to the Doctor of Chiropractic degree and single-purpose institutions offering the Doctor of Chiropractic program.

Committee Recommendation: Vote of 11-3  
Renew the agency's recognition for a period of three years.

Comments: The Committee found the agency to be operating in compliance with the criteria for recognition.

The Committee heard testimony from 39 third-party commenters representing the individuals and associations listed below. Testimony included both positive and negative comments regarding the agency, though the preponderance of comments was negative. The negative comments were framed by a longstanding philosophical disagreement within the chiropractic community of the appropriate scope of practice of chiropractors. Commenters expressed concern with the agency's review of its standards and their disagreement as to what terminology should be included in the chiropractic standards. They also alleged a lack of inclusiveness and unwillingness by the agency to address the concerns of the commenters and alleged anti-competitive behavior, lack of integrity, and conflicts of interest within the operation of the agency so pervasive as to impact the credibility of the chiropractic accreditation process. The positive comments supported the agency's medically-based approach. Commenters stated that they felt that the agency had duly considered all viewpoints in its most recent review of its standards. The Committee's discussion focused on clarifying and assessing the issues raised by the commenters. The Committee's split vote was based on a minority of members' concerns that the agency has not adequately addressed the deep division in the industry related to its standards as a quality of education issue.

Written Materials Reviewed by the Committee: Petition and supporting documentation submitted by the agency and the Department staff analysis and report.

NACIQI Primary Readers:  
Cameron Staples; Federico Zaragoza

Third Party Commenters:  
Mr. Arno Burnier, Chiropractic educator  
Mr. DaPonte, Chiropractor  
Mr. Jerry Degrado, Chiropractor  
Mr. Michael Guinosso, Chiropractor  
Mr. Shawn Dill, Palmetto State Chiropractic Association  
Mr. Anthony Hamm, Vice President, American Chiropractic Association  
Mr. Ronald Hendrickson, International Chiropractors Association  
Mr. Christopher Kent, President, Foundation for Vertebral Subluxation  
Mr. Roderic Lacy, Florida Chiropractic Physician Association, and the First Chiropractic Physician Association of America  
Mr. Dan Lemberger, Chair of the DaVinci Group  
Mr. Robert Love, Student, Life University  
Mr. Michael McClean, International Chiropractors Association

Mr. David O'Bryon, Association of Chiropractic Colleges  
Mr. David Odiorne, Vice President of New York Chiropractic College  
Mr. Keith Overland, President, American Chiropractic Association  
Mr. James Potter, CEO, American Chiropractic Association  
Mr. Andrew Roberts, Chiropractor  
Mr. John Scaringe, President, South California University of Health Sciences  
Mr. Mattie Leto, Chiropractor  
Mr. Rob Scott, Vice President, Life University  
Ms. Selina Sigafoose-Jackson, Chiropractor  
Mr. Mike Simone, Chairman of the Board, American Chiropractic Association  
Mr. Steve Tullius, Chiropractor  
Ms. Nutz Campanale, International Federation of Chiropractors and Organizations  
Mr. Zachary Wells, Delta Sigma Chi Professional Fraternal Chiropractic Organization  
Mr. Steve Welsh, Chiropractor  
Mr. David Wickes, Dean, University of Bridgeport's College of Chiropractic  
Mr. Theodore Dragoo, Student, Life University  
Mr. John Lancaster, Student, Life University  
Mr. Ronald Sweeney, Student, Life University  
Mr. Beau Smith, Student, Life University  
Ms. Megan Haleh Afshar, Student, Life University  
Mr. Ruvain Rubinstein, Student, Life University  
Mr. Cameron Banks, Student, Life University  
Mr. Michael Wiles, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, Northwestern Health Sciences University  
Dr. Lawrence O'Connor, former President, current board member, Chiropractic Licensing Boards  
Dr. Lynn Pownhall, D'Youville College  
Dr. Kathleen Linaker, D'Youville College  
Dr. Norman Ouzts, President, National Board of Chiropractic Examiners

### **Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT)**

Action for Consideration: Renewal of Recognition after Review of the Compliance Report.

Current and Requested Scope of Recognition: The accreditation of education programs in radiography, magnetic resonance, radiation therapy, and medical dosimetry, including those offered via distance education, at the certificate, associate, and baccalaureate levels.

Committee Recommendation: Vote of 14-0  
NACIQI recommends that the Secretary accept the recommendation as stated on the Consent Agenda. [NOTE: For this agency, the Consent Agenda contained the specific recommendation to renew the agency's recognition for a period of three years.]

Comments: There were no compliance issues and no further discussion of the agency's report.

Written Materials Reviewed by the Committee: Petition and supporting documentation submitted by the agency and the Department staff analysis and report.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

Jill Derby; Frank Wu

### **Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education (MACTE)**

Action for Consideration: Renewal of Recognition after Review of the Compliance Report.

Current and Requested Scope of Recognition: The accreditation of Montessori teacher education institutions and programs throughout the United States, including those offered via distance education.

Advisory Committee Recommendation: Vote: 14-0

NACIQI recommends that the Secretary accept the recommendation as stated on the Consent Agenda. [NOTE: For this agency, the Consent Agenda contained the specific recommendation to renew the agency's recognition for a period of two years.]

Comments: There were no compliance issues and no further discussion of the agency's report.

Written Materials Reviewed by the Committee: Compliance report and supporting documentation submitted by the agency, and the Department staff analysis and report.

NACIQI Primary Readers:

Simon Boehme; William Kirwan; Susan Phillips

### **III. Petition for Renewal of Recognition of a State Agency Recognized for the Approval of Nurse Education**

#### **North Dakota Board of Nursing (NDBN)**

Action for Consideration: Petition for Renewal of Recognition as a State Approval Agency.

Current Scope of Recognition: State agency for the approval of nurse education.

Advisory Committee Recommendation: Vote: 14-0

NACIQI recommends that the Secretary accept the recommendation as stated on the Consent Agenda. [NOTE: For this agency, the Consent Agenda contained the specific recommendation to renew the agency's recognition for a period of four years.]

Comments: There were no compliance issues and no further discussion of the agency's report.

Written Materials Reviewed by the Committee: Compliance report and supporting documentation submitted by the agency, and the Department staff analysis and report.

NACIQI Primary Readers:  
Jill Derby; Larry Vanderhoef

#### **IV. Renewal of Recognition as a State Agency Recognized for the Approval of Nurse Education Based on Review of the Agency's Compliance Report**

##### **New York State Board of Regents (Nursing Education) (NYBRN)**

Action for Consideration: Renewal of Recognition after Review of the Compliance Report.

Current Scope of Recognition: State agency for the approval of nurse education.

Advisory Committee Recommendation: Vote: 14-0

NACIQI recommends that the Secretary accept the recommendation as stated on the Consent Agenda. [NOTE: For this agency, the Consent Agenda contained the specific recommendation to renew the agency's recognition for a period of two years.]

Comments: There were no compliance issues and no further discussion of the agency's report.

Written Materials Reviewed by the Committee: Compliance report and supporting documentation submitted by the agency, and the Department staff analysis and report.

NACIQI Primary Readers:  
George French; Arthur Rothkopf

#### **V. Renewal of Recognition as a State Agency Recognized for the Approval of Vocational Education Based on Review of the Agency's Compliance Report**

##### **New York State Board of Regents (Vocational Education) (NYBRVE)**

Action for Consideration: Renewal of Recognition after Review of the Compliance Report.

Current Scope of Recognition: State agency for the approval of vocational technical education.

Advisory Committee Recommendation: Vote: 14-0

NACIQI recommends that the Secretary accept the recommendation as stated on the Consent Agenda. [NOTE: For this agency, the Consent Agenda contained the specific recommendation to renew the agency's recognition for a period of two years.]

Comments: There were no compliance issues and no further discussion of the agency's report.

Written Materials Reviewed by the Committee: Compliance report and supporting documentation submitted by the agency, and the Department staff analysis and report.

NACIQI Primary Readers:  
Frank Wu; Federico Zaragoza

**Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education (ODTCE)**

Action for Consideration: Renewal of Recognition after Review of the Compliance Report.

Current Scope of Recognition: State agency for the approval of vocational technical education.

Requested Scope of Recognition: State agency for the approval of vocational technical education including distance education.

Advisory Committee Recommendation: Vote: 9-0 (10 were present but Chair stepped out) Deny the agency's request for an expansion of scope to include distance education. Continue the agency's current recognition for good cause and require the agency to submit a full petition for renewal of recognition for consideration in the spring 2015 review cycle.

Comments: The Committee found the agency to be operating in compliance with the criteria for recognition, except for the issues listed below.

§603.24(a)(1)(iii) §603.24(a)(2)(iii)(A) §603.24(a)(3)(ii) §603.24(a)(3)(ii)(A)  
§603.24(b)(1)(vii) §603.24(b)(1)(xi)

Of the six citations, two are related to the agency's standards review and information collection, and four are related to the agency's review of distance education, specifically the need to clarify how its standards apply to its assessment of distance education programs. The committee queried the agency on what would be the impact of a denial of its request to include distance education in its scope of recognition on students in Oklahoma and on the State's ability to expeditiously address the Department's concerns.

Written Materials Reviewed by the Committee: Compliance report and supporting documentation submitted by the agency, and the Department staff analysis and report.

NACIQI Primary Readers:  
Richard O'Donnell; Susan Phillips

**Pennsylvania State Board for Vocational Education, Bureau of Career and Technical Education (PABCTE)**

Action for Consideration: Renewal of Recognition after Review of the Compliance Report.

Current Scope of Recognition: State agency for the approval of vocational technical education.

Advisory Committee Recommendation: Vote: 14-0

NACIQI recommends that the Secretary accept the recommendation as stated on the Consent Agenda. [NOTE: For this agency, the Consent Agenda contained the specific recommendation to renew the agency's recognition for a period of two years.]

Comments: There were no compliance issues and no further discussion of the agency's report.

Written Materials Reviewed by the Committee: Compliance report and supporting documentation submitted by the agency, and the Department staff analysis and report.

NACIQI Primary Readers:  
Arthur Keiser; Cameron Staples