CHEA 2015
Annual Conference
(January 26-28)

Change, Challenge and Accreditation

Capital Hilton Hotel
1001 16th Street NW
Washington, DC

Final Program
Monday, January 26

5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.  OPENING RECEPTION (South American Room)

Tuesday, January 27

8:00 a.m.  REGISTRATION AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.  WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Speakers: Dorothy Leland, Chancellor, University of California, Merced and Chair, Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) Board of Directors; Judith Eaton, CHEA President

8:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.  PLENARY SESSION I

Alternatives to Accreditation: the emerging national discussion of a next generation of external quality review

Introduction: Judith Eaton, CHEA President

Speakers: David Bergeron, Vice President, Postsecondary Education, Center for American Progress; Andrew Kelly, Director, Center for Higher Education Reform, American Enterprise Institute; Ben Miller, Senior Policy Analyst, New American Foundation

During the past year, a number of suggestions have emerged to judge the quality of higher education. These practices are often offered independent of current accreditation and raise questions about its longstanding role. What are alternatives emerging now? What are their key features? What challenges will the alternatives address? What will be the impact on traditional accreditation?

10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.  BREAK

10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.  PLENARY SESSION II

A New Congress and a New Start: Implications For Accreditation?

Introduction: Judith Eaton, CHEA President

Speaker: Congresswoman Virginia Foxx (R-North Carolina), Chair, U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training

What will be the likely impact of the new Congress on accreditation and the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act?
Tuesday, January 27 (continued)

11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS

1. **Accreditation, Competency-based Education and Direct Assessment**
   (Senate Room)

   **Paul LeBlanc (moderator),** President, Southern New Hampshire University; **Herman Bounds,** Director, Accreditation Group, Office of Postsecondary Education, U.S. Department of Education; **Barbara Gellman-Danley,** President, Higher Learning Commission; **Gregory P. Martin,** Analyst, Policy Development Group, Office of Postsecondary Education, U.S. Department of Education

   As competency-based education plays a growing role in higher education, issues around accreditation and eligibility for student financial aid are being addressed. What are these issues and what do they mean for accreditation?

2. **Accreditation and Quality Assurance at Umm Al-Qura University, Saudi Arabia** (Federal Room)

   **Stamenka Uvalić-Trumbić (moderator),** CHEA Senior Advisor on International Affairs; **Hani Ghazi,** Vice President for Academic Development and Community Service, Umm Al-Qura University

   Umm Al-Qura University (UQU) in Makkah, Saudi Arabia started the process of institutional and program academic accreditation in 2010, with a Master Plan to reach 100 percent accreditation of all the programs in eight years. What are the success stories and lessons learned as well as what has been achieved so far?

3. **Accreditation and Student Learning Outcomes: Progress and Challenges**
   (South American Room)

   **Mary Ellen Petrisko (moderator),** President, WASC Senior College and University Commission; **Jo Ann Regan,** Director, Office of Social Work Accreditation, Council on Social Work Education; **Tom Tanner,** Director, Accreditation and Institutional Evaluation, Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada

   Accreditation has engaged the challenging topic of student learning outcomes for a number of years. What progress have we made and what work remains to be done? How do accreditors envision addressing outcomes in the future?
Tuesday, January 27 (continued)

12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.  PLENARY III: LUNCHEON SESSION

THE COLLEGE RATINGS SYSTEM AND ACCREDITATION

Speaker: Jamienne Studley, Deputy Under Secretary, U.S. Department of Education

The college ratings system is the federal government’s most recent effort to directly address access, affordability and outcomes at colleges and universities. What is the status of this undertaking and what is the reaction to date?

CHEA AWARD PRESENTATION

Recipients: Boston Architectural College Practice Department and James Madison University

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.  CONCURRENT SESSIONS

4. Case Studies: Quality Assurance in Latin America (Federal Room)

Carol Bobby (moderator), President and CEO, Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs; Guillermo Duque Delgadillo Hernandez, Director for Strategic Initiatives, National Association of Universities and Institutions of Higher Learning; Maria Jose Lemaitre, Executive Director, Centro Interuniversitario de Desarrollo

Mexico and Chile have made major investments in the development of quality assurance over the years. What is the current state of quality assurance in these countries? What are the key issues and challenges?

5. Leadership in Accreditation (South American Room)

Marilee Bresciani Ludvik, Professor of Postsecondary Educational Leadership, San Diego State University; Laurie Cameron, Mindful Leadership Teacher, Executive MBA Program, Robert H. Smith School of Business, University of Maryland and Executive Leadership Coach and Consultant

What are the leadership needs for building the future of accreditation? How do we assure that decision-making is evidence-based and innovative?
Tuesday, January 27 (continued)

6. Accreditation and Innovation (Senate Room)

**Barbara Brittingham (moderator), President/Director, Commission on Institutions of Higher Education, New England Association of Schools and Colleges; Michael Goldstein, Co-Chair, Higher Education Practice, Cooley LLP; Peter Smith, President and Founder, Open College at Kaplan University**

What counts as innovation in accreditation today? How is accreditation meeting this challenge in our colleges and universities? What kinds of changes do accrediting organizations anticipate for the future?

... evening on your own ...

Wednesday, January 28

8:00 a.m. CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. PLENARY SESSION IV

**A NEW CONGRESS: THE NEXT TWO YEARS**

*Speaker: Michael Barone, Political Analyst and Senior Writer, U.S. News and World Report*

As the new Congress begins and the Obama Administration enters its final two years in office, what impact are these changes likely to have?
Wednesday, January 28 (continued)

9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.  
**PLENARY SESSION V**

**FUTURELEARN AND THE FUTURE OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

*Introduction:* John Bassett, President, Heritage University and Immediate Past Chair, CHEA Board of Directors

*Speaker:* Simon Nelson, CEO of FutureLearn

FutureLearn, a social learning platform developed by The Open University in the UK, offers Massive Open Online Courses from leading international universities and cultural institutions. FutureLearn espouses “learning through conversation,” with a platform built to support the pedagogy and forge connections among learners. What can be learned from FutureLearn’s experiences to date and what are the implications for accreditation and quality assurance internationally?

10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
**BREAK**

11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.  
**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

7. **The Future of the For-Profit Higher Education Sector** *(Senate Room)*

Craig Swenson (moderator), Chancellor Emeritus, Argosy University; Diane Auer Jones, Senior Vice President, Chief External Affairs Officer and Career Education Scholarship Fund President, Career Education Corporation; Wallace Boston, President and CEO, American Public University System; Anthony Guida, Partner, Duane Morris LLP

For-profit higher education has had both highs and lows during the past five years. How is the sector currently positioned? What is a likely future for the many types of for-profit institutions?


Debra Humphreys, Vice President, Policy and Public Engagement, Association of American Colleges and Universities; Terrel Rhodes, Vice President, Office of Quality Curriculum and Assessment, Association of American Colleges and Universities
Wednesday, January 28 (continued)

New research about the demands of the global knowledge economy underscores the implications for how we assure and provide evidence that students are achieving key learning outcomes. What are new approaches to assessing student learning outcomes that are more aligned with what employers need and that will provide better data and evidence for quality assurance purposes?

9. Where Are We Headed With Noninstitutional Providers of Education?  
(South American Room)

Judith Eaton (moderator), CHEA President; Sally Johnstone, Vice President, Academic Advancement, Western Governors University; Burck Smith, CEO and Founder, StraighterLine

More and more attention is being paid to education offerings available apart from traditional higher education, whether in the form of Massive Open Online Courses, private company offerings or badges. What is the future of these providers and their relationship with traditional higher education and accreditation?

12:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. PLENARY VI: CLOSING SESSION

THE ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL RANKINGS

Speakers: Phil Baty, Editor at Large, Times Higher Education; Robert Morse, Director of Data Research, U.S. News and World Report; Don Westerheijden, Senior Research Associate, Center for Higher Education Policy Studies

International rankings have played a role in judging higher education for a number of years. What is the current status of these efforts? Are rankings changing in some fundamental ways? What is their current and likely future level of importance?

Conference Adjourns