



Recalibrating the Accreditation-Federal Relationship

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Five Purposes

- i 1. Identify Forces Requiring Recalibration
- i 2. Search for a New Model
- i 3. Discuss Alternative Models
- i 4. Recommend a Congressional Charter
- i 5. Suggest Specific Next Steps



Forces Confronting Accreditation's Future

- i Changes in the Academy
- i Heightened Expectations
- i The Overloaded Pack Animal
- i Loss of Credibility
- i The 2008 Reauthorization



Search for a New Model

- | The CHEA Initiative
- | Elements of a Structural Solution
 - | Desirable Elements
 - | Strengthened Authority
 - | Legal Standing
 - | Capitalization and Specialized Expertise
 - | Sustainability
 - | Academic Credibility



Search for a New Model (Cont'd)

- | Elements of a Structural Solution
 - | Essential Values
 - | Self Regulation and Autonomy
 - | Mission-centered Review
 - | Self-Study
 - | Peer Review



Alternative Models: Benefits and Risks

- i Maintain the Status Quo
- i Abandon Self-Regulation to Feds
- i Assign to the States
- i Outsource Accreditation
- i Transfer to Another Entity
- i Adapt the FASB Model



Preferred Option: A Congressional Charter

- | History and Types
- | “Academic” Charters
- | Charter Benefits
 - | Recognition and Strengthening
 - | Legal and Financial
 - | Sustainability and Credibility
 - | Authority and Values



Specific Next Steps

- | Retain Appropriate Counsel
- | Secure Consensus
- | Authorize a Task Force
 - | Name
 - | Purposes
 - | Governance Structure
 - | Foundation Role
 - | Principles, Values and Precepts



Specific Next Steps (Cont'd)

- i Secure Sponsors
- i Determine Federal Financial Support
- i Engage in Efforts to Secure Approval
- i Model the Value of Outcomes Measurement



Conclusion

- i Recalibration is Required
- i Reauthorization Overreaches
- i Nation in Danger of Losing Independent Higher Education
- i Balance Needed: Institutional Interests and Public Interests
- i Strengthen Accreditation as a National Value