

2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT

CHEA Council for
Higher Education
Accreditation
CHEA International Quality Group **CIQG**

The Council for Higher Education Accreditation

The Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) serves its members, students and society through advocacy for the value and independence of accreditation, recognition of accrediting organizations and commitment to quality in higher education.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 04 Letter from the President Emeritus**
- 05 Greetings from President Jackson-Hammond**
- 06 2019-2020: A Year of Challenges, A Year of Accomplishments**
- 09 Board of Directors**
- 10 Committee on Recognition**
- 11 CHEA-Recognized Accrediting Organizations**
- 13 Financial Statement**

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT *EMERITUS*

Dear Colleagues:

If ever there was a year that made it clear why the Council for Higher Education (CHEA) and our work on behalf of accreditation is important, it was 2019-2020.

2019-2020 is my last year as CHEA's president. I am proud of what CHEA has done this year – and in fact since its founding in 1996 – as an advocate for accreditation and a source of clear and concise information: Accreditation Central. This has been vitally important at a time of great uncertainty for higher education and accreditation due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

A few examples of CHEA's work during this past year include:

- CHEA provided need-to-know information to members, quickly and often, about the U.S. government's and accrediting organizations' response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including updates on regulatory and policy changes affecting accredited institutions.
- CHEA made the strength of accreditation and its value to students and society its central message to lawmakers, policy leaders and media, as new accreditation regulations were put into place and legislation to reauthorize the Higher Education Act was introduced.
- CHEA kept its recognition review of accrediting organizations strong, as part of our work to build trust and confidence in peer review as central to higher education quality.

CHEA is there for accreditation because institutions are there for CHEA. I thank all of you who have supported CHEA not only through your membership but through your active involvement.

While I will no longer be CHEA's president, I will continue to serve in a consulting capacity as President *Emeritus*. And I am certain that CHEA's mission and activities will be ably advanced by CHEA's new president, Cynthia Jackson-Hammond.

Thank you, and on behalf of CHEA's Board of Directors and staff, we look forward to working with you in the year ahead.

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JE' with a stylized flourish.

Judith Eaton

GREETINGS FROM PRESIDENT JACKSON-HAMMOND

Dear CHEA Members and Accreditation Stakeholders:

While this is a report on CHEA's activities and accomplishments in 2019-2020, I want to express how honored I am to serve as CHEA's president and how excited I am to work with you.

Since August 2020, CHEA has been very active serving our members, including:

- Producing a **series of videos** titled "Conversations with CHEA" where President *Emeritus* Judith Eaton and I talk about CHEA's formation, its development and converse about the future of accreditation in a post-COVID-19 environment.
- Hosting an extremely well-attended **webinar** on "Institutional Liability, Clinical Programs and Quality," featuring leaders from institutional and programmatic accrediting organizations and universities. This webinar was particularly timely as higher education copes with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on both institutions and accreditation.
- Presenting an **analysis** of the impact of the 2020 elections on the Administration and Congress, with a focus on higher education, in CHEA's *Federal Update* newsletter.
- Preparing for CHEA's first-ever virtual **Annual Conference**, which will focus on "change" and the impact on higher education quality, accreditation and equity. The 24th Annual Conference will be January 26-28, 2021 and will feature thought leaders from national and international communities.

CHEA is maintaining a very busy pace, which will continue throughout 2021 and beyond. Central to all our work is quality assurances in higher education through accreditation.

Accreditation is even more important than ever as higher education addresses new issues related to equity and social justice.

Hearing from members and stakeholders is vitally important. We will be reaching out to you in a variety of ways to better understand and serve you. Your voice is very important; and we want to work **with** you on the issues of greatest importance to accreditation and quality assurance. Together, we can do great things.

I also want to express my sincere gratitude for your membership. Your active affiliation enables us to continue our work on your behalf. Whether you are a continuing or new CHEA member, I sincerely thank you for supporting the organization and its core principles.

The Council for Higher Education Accreditation has been essential in the recognition process and as advocates for independent self-study and review in higher education for nearly 25 years. With your collaborative support, we will continue to be the standards bearer for assuring quality in higher education.

I am excited by the future and working with each of you for many years to come.

Sincerely,



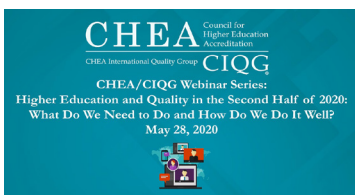
Cynthia Jackson-Hammond

Cynthia Jackson-Hammond
President

2019-2020: A YEAR OF CHALLENGES, A YEAR OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF MEMBERS AND ACCREDITATION DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The COVID-19 pandemic affected all of higher education as institutions moved to distance learning and accrediting



organizations kept pace with changes to the colleges and universities they oversee. CHEA, in turn, responded by assuring that

institutions and accreditors had the information they needed on changes to regulatory policy and accreditation practices.

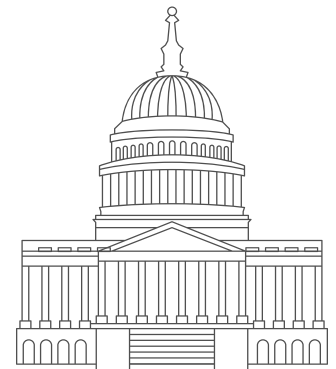
- CHEA provided information on its Website to assist institutions in addressing the challenges of COVID-19, including U.S. Department of Education (USDE) guidance on accreditation and academic flexibility and a listing of accreditation policy statements put out by institutional and programmatic accrediting organizations.
- CHEA held a series of conference calls with CHEA- and USDE-recognized accrediting organizations on their response to the COVID-19 pandemic and hosted a Webinar on higher education and quality in Fall 2020.
- CHEA kept members informed of the latest regulatory and policy news concerning COVID-19 through a series of CHEA mails.
- CHEA joined with Tuscan Strategy Consulting and Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security to create tools designed to assist institutions with operations

while the COVID-19 pandemic persists ([OpenSmartEDU.org](https://www.opensmarteu.org)).

PROVIDING GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS LEADERSHIP

CHEA's work with Congress and the U.S. Department of Education was an important component of our efforts on behalf of higher education accreditation in 2019-2020, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Throughout the year, CHEA met with key Congressional staff and USDE accreditation leadership on a range of policy and regulatory issues related to accreditation.
- CHEA signed more than 25 community letters to Congress and the Administration on issues including higher education funding, visas, regulations and waivers of regulations as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- CHEA's *Federal Update* kept members informed on the latest news and events related to the federal government and accreditation.
- USDE accreditation leaders and key Congressional staff addressed and participated in CHEA meetings including the 2020 CHEA Annual Conference and 2020 CHEA Summer Roundtable.



KEEPING ACCREDITED COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES AND THE ACCREDITATION COMMUNITY INFORMED ON THE LATEST ISSUES AND NEWS

While the COVID-19 pandemic overshadowed other accreditation-related issues in the second half of the year, CHEA



TAKING INITIAL STEPS: A PATH FOR RETHINKING ACCREDITATION AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

Judith Eaton, President, Council for Higher Education Accreditation

We live in a time of rapid change. The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted our lives in ways we could not have imagined. Every problem is an opportunity to do better. In a crisis, we are more likely to embrace change and to work together to find solutions. This is the time to re-examine our assumptions and to ask: How do we ensure that our accreditation and quality assurance systems are relevant and effective in a world that is changing so rapidly? This is the time to re-examine our assumptions and to ask: How do we ensure that our accreditation and quality assurance systems are relevant and effective in a world that is changing so rapidly?

remained active addressing a range of issues affecting higher education quality, accreditation and quality assurance around the world

- As part of its National Quality Dialogue, CHEA published an *Opinion Editorial Series* on

issues related to higher education quality and accreditation and held interviews with institutional presidents on quality and accreditation.

- An issue of *Inside Accreditation*, authored by CHEA President Judith Eaton, explored the topic of rethinking accreditation and quality assurance.
- CHEA's Website resources on [Accreditation and Higher Education Act Reauthorization](#) were updated regularly.

PROMOTING HIGHER EDUCATION QUALITY THROUGH CHEA RECOGNITION

An important part of CHEA's work in 2019-2020 was the recognition of regional, national career-related, national faith-related and programmatic accrediting organizations.

- In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, CHEA provided flexibility to

accrediting organizations to participate in virtual recognition reviews.

- In 2019-2020, CHEA's Committee on Recognition either made recommendations to the CHEA Board of Directors or took action affecting a number of CHEA-recognized accrediting organizations. Most of the actions or recommendations involved review of interim, progress or follow-up reports that the committee had requested of the accreditors.
- The Committee on Recognition received several applications for recognition from accrediting organizations not previously recognized by CHEA.

SERVING AS A THOUGHT LEADER, CONVENER AND POLICY PARTNER ON INTERNATIONAL QUALITY ASSURANCE ISSUES

Quality assurance bodies, higher education institutions and associations from around the world continue to support the CHEA International Quality Group (CIQG) through their CIQG membership.



Abdullatif Alshami, President and CEO, Higher Colleges of Technology; Sonya Christian, President, Bakersfield College; and Joaquin A. Guerra-Achem, Vice President for Educational Innovation and Academic Affairs, Tecnológico de Monterrey, received the 2019 CIQG Quality Award on behalf of their institutions.

- The CHEA/CIQG Webinar and Podcast series produced a [series of Webinars](#) on higher education quality and quality assurance and a [Podcast](#) on the digitization of higher education and quality assurance.
- CHEA/CIQG maintained and updated a [Resources on Combatting Academic](#)

Corruption section on the CHEA Website.

- The 2019 CIQG Quality Award was presented to three institutions at the 2020 CIQG Annual Meeting, to recognize higher education providers worldwide for their outstanding performance in meeting the CIQG International Quality Principles established in 2015.

INFORMING THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE AND VALUE OF ACCREDITATION

CHEA's Website, along with social media outreach through Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and LinkedIn, served as "Accreditation Central," informing students, parents and the public about accreditation and its value to society.

- The *Database of Institutions Accredited by Recognized U.S. Accrediting Organizations* was visited by more than 750,000 individuals in 2019-2020, providing information on the accredited status of colleges and universities
- The CHEA Website also provided in-depth information about accreditation through publications and videos such as *Accreditation and Its Value to You* also found on YouTube.
- Throughout the year, CHEA posted hundreds of times on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn, providing information and updates on accreditation-related news and events.



The 2020 CHEA Annual Conference and CIQG Annual Meeting brought together more than 300 participants from across the United States and around the world.

2019-2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(As of June 30, 2020)

The CHEA Board of Directors is composed of up to 20 members elected for three-year terms. The members are current or former chief executive officers of degree-granting colleges and universities, other institutional members (e.g., deans, provosts, faculty) and public members.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Orlando L. Taylor

Chair,
Distinguished Senior Advisor to
the President,
Fielding Graduate Institute



Jean Wyld

Vice Chair,
Professor *Emeritus*,
Retired Provost and Vice President for
Academic Affairs, Springfield College



Nancy Marlin

Secretary,
Professor and Provost *Emerita*,
San Diego State University



Richard L. Pattenaude

Treasurer,
President *Emeritus*,
Ashford University



David Maxwell

Immediate Past Chair,
President *Emeritus*,
Drake University

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



William A. "Bud" Baeslack, III

Professor,
Case Western Reserve University



Joseph Brimhall

President,
University of Western States



Pauletta Brown Bracy

Director,
Office of University Accreditation
North Carolina Central University



Robert Clark

President and CEO,
Husson University



Antoine Garibaldi

President,
University of Detroit Mercy



Gena Glickman

President,
Massasoit Community College



Dottie King

President,
Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College



Cesar Maldonado

Chancellor,
Houston Community College



Anthony Munroe

President,
Essex County College



Lester Newman

President,
Jarvis Christian College



Paula M. Rooney

President,
Dean College



Carlos Santiago

Commissioner,
Massachusetts Department of
Higher Education

COMMITTEE ON RECOGNITION

(As of June 30, 2020)

The CHEA Committee on Recognition is responsible for considering the eligibility and recognition status of new and continuing accrediting organizations. The Committee consists of nine members, each serving a three-year term, and includes public members, members from regional, specialized, national and professional accrediting organizations and members from colleges and universities.



Mary Ann P. Swain

Chair,
Bartle Professor,
State University of New York at
Binghamton



Teri Cannon

Chief Accreditation Officer,
Chief Student Affairs and Operations
Officer, Keck Graduate Institute and
Minerva Schools at KGI



Stephanie Droker

President,
Accrediting Commission for Community
and Junior Colleges



Neil Harvison

Chief Professional Affairs Officer,
American Occupational Therapy
Association



Lucas B. Kavlie

Vice President,
Compliance & Accreditation
Western Governors University



Tanmay Pramanik

Vice President of Institutional
Compliance,
Transnational Association of Christian
Colleges and Schools



David Werner

Chancellor *Emeritus*,
Southern Illinois University
Edwardsville



Emily Williams

Vice President and
Dean of Academic Affairs
University of Pittsburgh – Bradford

CHEA-RECOGNIZED ACCREDITING ORGANIZATIONS (As of June 30, 2020)

NATIONAL FAITH-RELATED

- Association for Biblical Higher Education Commission on Accreditation
- Association of Advanced Rabbinical and Talmudic Schools Accreditation Commission
- Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools
- Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools Accreditation Commission

NATIONAL CAREER-RELATED

- Distance Education Accrediting Commission

REGIONAL

- Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges Western Association of Schools and Colleges
- Higher Learning Commission
- Middle States Commission on Higher Education
- New England Commission of Higher Education
- Northwest Commission of Colleges and Universities
- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges
- WASC Senior College and University Commission

PROGRAMMATIC

- Accreditation Commission for Audiology Education
- Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing
- Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs
- Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education
- Accreditation Council on Optometric Education
- Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc.
- Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications
- American Academy of Forensic Sciences Forensic Science Education Programs Accreditation Commission
- American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Council for Accreditation
- American Board of Funeral Service Education Committee on Accreditation
- American Council for Construction Education
- American Culinary Federation Education Foundation, Inc. Accrediting Commission
- American Library Association Committee on Accreditation
- American Occupational Therapy Association Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education
- American Physical Therapy Association Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education
- American Podiatric Medical Association Council on Podiatric Medical Education
- American Psychological Association Commission on Accreditation
- American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education
- Association of Technology, Management, and Applied Engineering
- Aviation Accreditation Board International

- Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education
- Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy
- Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care
- Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs
- Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education
- Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education
- Commission on Accreditation of Medical Physics Education Programs, Inc.
- Commission on Opticianry Accreditation
- Commission on Sport Management Accreditation
- Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs
- Council for Interior Design Accreditation
- Council for Standards in Human Service Education
- Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation
- Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
- Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs
- Council on Accreditation of Parks, Recreation, Tourism and Related Professions
- Council on Chiropractic Education
- Council on Social Work Education Commission on Accreditation
- International Accreditation Council for Collegiate Business Education
- International Fire Service Accreditation Congress Degree Assembly
- Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology
- Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology
- Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board American Society of Landscape Architects
- National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences
- Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation
- Planning Accreditation Board
- Psychological Clinical Science Accrediting System

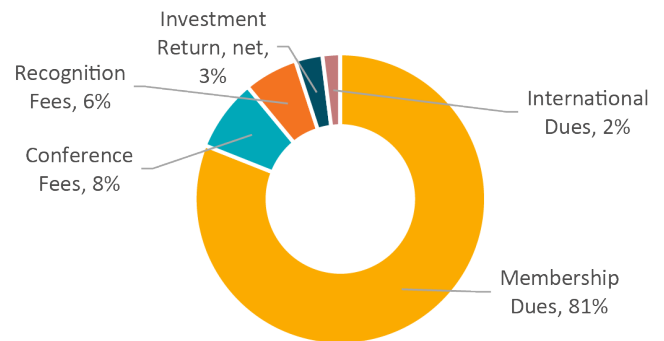
FINANCIALS

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2020

Assets	\$	6,782,453
Liabilities		1,147,422
Net Assets		
Without Donor Restrictions		4,611,571
With Donor Restrictions		1,023,460

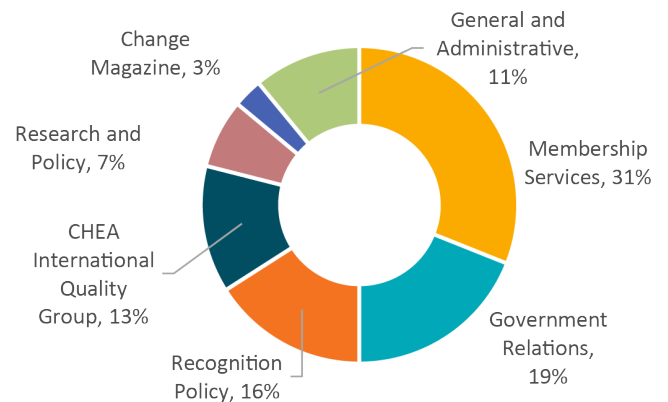
Revenues

Membership Dues	\$	2,461,540
Conference Fees		236,138
Recognition Fees		180,000
Investment Return, net		95,841
International Dues		50,780
Other Revenue		5
Total Revenues	\$	3,024,304



Expenses

<u>Program Services:</u>	
Membership Services	\$ 1,069,009
Government Relations	673,463
Recognition Policy	568,464
CHEA International Quality Group	449,256
Research and Policy	227,876
Change Magazine	101,144
<u>Support Services:</u>	
General and Administrative	384,548
Total Expenses	\$ 3,473,760



CHEA's FY20 Audit Report may be downloaded at <http://www.chea.org/financial-information>.

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