



ANNUAL REPORT

2020-21

THE COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION ACCREDITATION

The Council for Higher Education Accreditation 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.

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



DEAR COLLEAGUE:

The year 2020-21 was my first year as president of the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). It was a year of many changes for our member institutions and for CHEA-recognized accrediting organizations. Throughout the year, institutions and accrediting organizations engaged in professional reflections and review of their standards, structures, policies and protocols to establish a greater level of transparency and accountability to students, families and the public.

CHEA is excited about the work that was accomplished in 2020-21 and looks forward to serving its members and collaborative partners through the shared goal of enhancing institutional and program academic quality in higher education and, ultimately, student success.

I am pleased to provide the 2020-21 CHEA Annual Report which highlights some of the accomplishments of the year.

A YEAR OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

▼ CHEA, Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security and Tuscan Strategy Consulting worked collaboratively to plan and launch OpenSmartEDU.org, a website designed to guide colleges and universities in planning operating strategies for both near- and long-terms amid the many challenges of COVID-19. This valuable resource has been updated throughout the year. View this important tool for institutions [here](#).



▼ For the first time, CHEA issued a board-endorsed statement on diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI). CHEA believes that the rich values of diversity, equity and inclusion are inextricably linked to quality assurance in higher education. Read CHEA's DEI statement [here](#).

▼ CHEA was quoted or cited by national media and higher education publications on a varied of issues related to accreditation and quality assurance, including *Inside Higher Ed*, *Education Week*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* and *Fox Business*.

▼ With a new Administration and new leadership on Capitol Hill, CHEA held numerous meetings with staff from members of the Senate and House education committees and with key leaders at the U.S. Department of Education, to assure that the views of member colleges and universities are heard on accreditation-related issues.



▼
The process of revising CHEA's Recognition Standards and Policies moved forward, to ensure that the standards governing recognition of accrediting organizations are current, relevant and comprehensible. This is an in-depth process of comments and meetings to provide opportunities for input from all accreditation stakeholders.

▼
Four additional accreditors were recognized by CHEA for the first time, showing a widening interest by the accreditation community in seeking CHEA recognition. CHEA now recognizes 64 institutional and programmatic accrediting organizations (see a full list later in this Annual Report). When CHEA provides recognition to an institutional or programmatic accreditor, that means that institutions can be assured that the accrediting organizations are acting in the best interests of the institution. That is, the procedures for operations ensure ethical behavior, unbiased decision-making, transparency and accountability.



▼
CHEA published its latest edition of the Almanac of External Quality Review. Now fully online, it is a comprehensive source of information on participants in external quality review in the United States, and includes both general information on accreditation and specific information on all accrediting organizations recognized by CHEA, the U.S. Department of Education or both. See the *CHEA Almanac* [here](#).



▼
The CHEA Fellows Program began, with the first Fellow working at CHEA's Washington, DC office for eight weeks. The CHEA Fellows Program – an exclusive benefit for CHEA members – provides senior-level graduate students with experiences in higher education accreditation, policy development, recognition processes for accreditors, board oversight and operations, communications, business finance and government affairs. Read more about the CHEA Fellows Program [here](#).

▼
CHEA held well-attended and richly informative conferences and webinars throughout the year, including:

- The CHEA 2021 Annual Conference drew more than 400 participants from across the United States and around the world. Conference attendees heard key speakers addressing a range of quality assurance and accreditation-related issues. This year, for the first time, international sessions were fully integrated into the Annual Conference program, allowing participants to hear from a broad international array of views.
- The 2021 Summer Roundtable's focus was expanded to attract not only institutional leaders but also provosts, accreditation liaison officers, government affairs staff and accreditors. Open remarks were provided by Dr. Michelle Asha Cooper, the new Deputy Assistant Secretary for Higher Education Programs at the U.S. Department of Education. The Roundtable was an exclusive benefit for CHEA members and CHEA-recognized accreditors.



- CHEA also held an informative and well-attended webinar on Institutional Liability, Clinical Programs and Quality. The webinar – featuring institutional and programmatic accrediting organizations’ leadership, joined by leaders from colleges and universities – provided a valuable conversation for accreditors, faculty and academic administrators, higher education associations and government officials.

▼ This Spring, the Advisory Council for the CHEA International Quality Group (CIQG) met virtually to undertake international affairs planning for the year ahead. CIQG is CHEA’s international affiliate and its Advisory Council is made up of distinguished higher education and quality assurance experts from around the world. A list of the individuals on the CIQG Advisory Council can be found [here](#).

▼ CHEA also launched new communications products to keep member institutions better informed about CHEA and how to take better advantage of its member benefits. These include:

- The *Conversations with CHEA* video series address various issues on which CHEA is active, including government affairs, recognition and the launch of

the CHEA Fellows Program. The series also included conversations on CHEA’s establishment, as well as its future direction, featuring former CHEA President Judith Eaton and myself. View the *Conversations with CHEA* video series [here](#).



- A new CHEA publication – *Accreditation Central* – features articles by leaders from accrediting organizations and CHEA member institutions, addressing topics of importance to accredited colleges and universities, as well as updates on CHEA activities and upcoming events. View an issue of *Accreditation Central* [here](#).

▼ CHEA continued to keep members informed on the latest news and events affecting higher education accreditation through various publications, including the *Federal Update*, *Accreditation in the News* and *International QA in the News*. These publication are sent to members to provide information on the issues that will have an impact on accredited colleges and universities.



All of these activities are undertaken for one reason: to benefit our member institutions. This year, CHEA has expanded our focus on just how all colleges and universities benefit from their CHEA membership. We also have worked hard to make sure that members know all of the benefits that membership provides. A listing of these benefits can be found [here](#). Yes, CHEA is “The National Voice of Accreditation,” but for your college or universities, we provide important benefits when it comes to understanding accreditation and its impact on your institution.

LOOKING AHEAD

While no one can predict just what will happen in the year ahead, I can assure you of one thing: CHEA will be busy and engaged in serving our members. Our government affairs work will accelerate as the U.S. Department of Education holds a series of negotiated rulemakings on higher education issues with the potential to have an impact on accreditation and Congress considers the (long overdue) process of reauthorizing the Higher Education Act. CHEA will finalize and set into place revised Recognition Standards and Practices. CHEA meetings and webinars will bring together participants from across the country and around the world to address issues of vital importance to accreditation and quality assurance. Through videos and publications, CHEA will keep members informed on those accreditation issues of greatest importance and most impact. And the CHEA International Quality Group will continue its focus on international quality assurance and how it affects institutions and programs worldwide.

None of this would be possible without the support of you, our member institutions. Thank you, and we look forward to working with you in 2021-2022!

Sincerely,



Cynthia Jackson-Hammond
President



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(As of June 30, 2021)



ORLANDO 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 PATTENAUDE

Treasurer, President Emeritus, Ashford University



GENA GLICKMAN

Member-at-Large, President, Massasoit Community College

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(As of June 30, 2021)



KASSANDRA ARDINGER

Trustee
University System of New Hampshire



DARRELL CAIN

President
Pierce College Puyallup



SHARON DEVIVO

President
Vaughn College



WILLIAM A. "BUD" BAESLACK III

Professor
Case Western Reserve University



F. JAVIER CEVALLOS

President
Framingham State University



ANTOINE GARIBALDI

President
University of Detroit Mercy



JOSEPH BRIMHALL

President
University of Western States



ROBERT CLARK

President and CEO
Husson University



DOTTIE KING

President
Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College



CESAR MALDONADO
Chancellor
Houston Community College



LESTER NEWMAN
President
Jarvis Christian College



CARLOS SANTIAGO
Commissioner
Massachusetts Department
of Higher Education



ANTHONY E MUNROE
President
Borough of Manhattan
Community College

COMMITTEE ON RECOGNITION

(As of June 30, 2021)



MARY ANN SWAIN
Chair, Committee on Recognition
Bartle Professor
State University of New York at
Binghamton



LUCAS KAVLIE
Vice President, Compliance and
Accreditation
Western Governors University



BOYCE WILLIAMS
Dean
College of Education
Frostburg State University



STEPHANIE DROKER
President
Accrediting Commission for
Community and Junior Colleges



TANMAY PRAMANIK
Vice President of Institutional
Compliance
Transnational Association of
Christian Colleges and Schools



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



NEIL HARVISON
Chief Professional Affairs Officer
American Occupational Therapy
Association



DAVID WERNER
Chancellor Emeritus
Southern Illinois University
Edwardsville

CHEA-RECOGNIZED ACCREDITING ORGANIZATIONS

(As of June 30, 2021)



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 for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation
- Association for Behavior Analysis International Accreditation Board
- 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 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
- Masters in Psychology and Counseling Accreditation Council
- National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences
- National Association for the Education of Young Children
- Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation
- Planning Accreditation Board
- Psychological Clinical Science Accrediting System

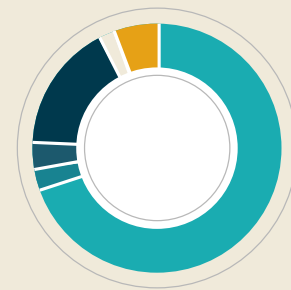
FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021

| | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | | NET ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS | |
| \$8,296,119 | 2,947,949 | 858,140 | 4,490,030 |
| ASSETS | LIABILITIES | UNDESIGNATED | BOARD-DESIGNATED RESTRICTIONS |

REVENUES

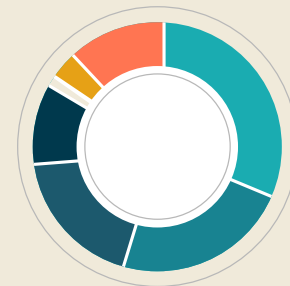
| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Membership Dues | \$2,911,960 |
| Conference Fees | 115,000 |
| Recognition Fees | 110,000 |
| Investment Return, net | 710,804 |
| Contributions | 30,000 |
| Other Revenue | 241,233 |
| Total Revenues | \$4,118,997 |



| | |
|------------------------|-----|
| Membership Dues | 71% |
| Conference Fees | 3% |
| Recognition Fees | 3% |
| Investment Return, net | 1% |
| Contributions | 1% |
| Other Revenue | 6% |

EXPENSES

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Program Services: | |
| Membership Services | \$1,084,718 |
| Government Relations | 748,409 |
| Recognition Policy | 640,625 |
| CHEA International Quality Group | 378,417 |
| Research and Policy | 31,597 |
| Change Magazine | 93,126 |
| Support Services: | |
| General and Administrative | 405,506 |
| Total Expenses | \$3,382,398 |



| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Membership Services | 32% |
| Government Relations | 22% |
| Recognition Policy | 19% |
| CHEA International Quality Group | 11% |
| Research and Policy | 1% |
| Change Magazine | 3% |
| General and Administrative | 12% |

2020-2021 CHEA FINANCIAL AUDIT.

CHEA Council for
Higher Education
Accreditation

CHEA International Quality Group **CIQG**[®]

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