

# CHEA Board of Directors Meeting

## Contents

[Treasurer's Report](#)

[Chair's Report](#)

[President's Report](#)

**April 29 , 2003  
Washington, DC**

**Summary of Major Actions and Discussion**  
*(These are not official minutes of the CHEA Board of Directors.)*

***Chair Arthur J. Rothkopf called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.***

## **Treasurer's Report**

The board of directors received the FY03 third quarter financial report.

## **Chair's Report**

### **Recognition**

The CHEA Committee on Recognition met on March 9-10, 2003 and reviewed eligibility and recognition applications from organizations seeking CHEA recognition.

The board of directors accepted the committee on recognition's recommendations that the following accrediting organizations be deemed eligible to be considered for CHEA recognition:

- American Podiatric Medical Association Council on Podiatric Medical Education
- Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology

The board of directors accepted the committee on recognition's recommendations for recognition of the following organizations:

- Accrediting Commission on Education for Health Services Administration
- American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education
- Council on Social Work Education Commission on Accreditation

The board of directors accepted the committee on recognition's recommendation for recognition with a report from the following organization:

- American Society of Landscape Architects Landscape Architectural Review Board

The board of directors accepted the committee on recognition's recommendation for recognition and, in addition, asked for a report from the following organization:

- American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology

The board of directors accepted the committee on recognition's recommendation for approval of a change of scope for the following organization:

- Distance Education and Training Council Accrediting Commission

### **Election of 2003-2006 Board Members**

The following individuals were elected to serve on the CHEA Board of Directors for three year terms beginning July 1, 2003:

Francis T. Borkowski, Chancellor, Appalachian State University (NC)  
Nancy A. Marlin, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, San Diego State University (CA)  
Gregory M. O'Brien, Chancellor, University of New Orleans (LA)  
Earl S. Richardson, President, Morgan State University (MD)  
Arthur J. Rothkopf, President, Lafayette College (PA) (second term)

### **Election of 2003-2004 Officers of the Board of Directors**

The board of directors approved the following slate of officers for 2003-2004:

Chair: Arthur J. Rothkopf, President, Lafayette College (PA)  
Vice Chair: Malcolm Gillis, President, Rice University (TX)  
Secretary: Eleanor Baum, Dean, Engineering School, The Cooper Union (NY)  
Treasurer: Richard P. Traina, Trustee, George I. Alden Trust (MA)

## **President's Report**

### **Governmental Relations Report**

Gregory Fusco, consultant to CHEA on government relations, reported on CHEA activities in federal relations since the January 2003 board meeting. The focus of these activities is reauthorization of the 1965 Higher Education Act as this relates to accreditation.

Mr. Fusco reported that he and CHEA staff have met with a number of key members of Congress and congressional staff to discuss institution and program accreditation and to learn of congressional interests and concerns with regard to accreditation. He briefly described the current political climate for accreditation as this relates to the board's consideration of the proposed CHEA Reauthorization Agenda. Board members and CHEA staff had discussed the political climate in some detail at the Working Session of the board on the day prior to the public board meeting.

Mr. Fusco stressed that accountability remains central to the interest and concerns of members of Congress and the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) when they talk about accreditation. Both branches of government are looking for additional attention to areas of accountability such as student learning outcomes, institution and program performance, and expanded information to the public about the findings of accreditation review as well as the basis for the judgments of accrediting organizations about accredited status of an institution or program.

CHEA will continue its discussion with members of Congress and USDE about accreditation and expectations for reauthorization.

### **CHEA Reauthorization Agenda**

The board approved the proposed CHEA Reauthorization Agenda with the understanding that the fundamental issue for accreditation in this reauthorization is accountability and that CHEA needs to provide leadership in accountability reform. The goals of the Reauthorization Agenda have been discussed with the CHEA board at the January 2003 meeting and have been reviewed with CHEA accrediting organizations. The goals are (1) expanding the commitment to accountability in accreditation, (2) reaffirming the key principles on which accreditation has operated for many years (at the national level, a decentralized, mission-based system of higher education committed to self-regulation as a private undertaking), (3) taking steps to ease transfer of credit in those instances in which accredited status may be problematic as transfer decisions are made by institutions and programs, (4) maintaining the current role of accreditation in distance learning and assuring that any expansion of federal support for distance learning be accompanied by appropriate quality review, and (5) presenting proposed legislation to affirm the value of accreditation and accreditation's commitment to reform and accountability.

CHEA will be publishing the Reauthorization Agenda on its Website as well as distributing it to CHEA constituents.

### **2002-2003 CHEA Survey**

During 2002-2003, CHEA conducted a survey of degree-granting institutions, CHEA accrediting organizations, and Washington-based higher education associations to learn of their familiarity with CHEA, their views of CHEA's effectiveness since the 1997-98 membership survey, their views of the most important accreditation-related issues that CHEA might address over the next five years, and their views of the accreditation process itself, independent of CHEA.

More than 50% of institutions, accreditors, and associations responded to the survey. The majority of respondents are generally familiar with CHEA and find the organization to provide effective service in recognition, governmental relations, and its various membership activities. Respondents identified student learning outcomes as the most important accreditation-related issue followed by distance learning and transfer of credit. Respondents also indicated general satisfaction with accreditation.

The executive summary of the CHEA survey will be available in the upcoming issue of the CHEA newsletter, the *CHEA Chronicle*. This newsletter is mailed to approximately 8,000 individuals in higher education, government, the press, and business. All CHEA newsletters are also available on the CHEA Website ([www.chea.org](http://www.chea.org)).

### **2003-2004 Organizational Goals and Budget**

The board of directors approved the 2003-2004 organizational goals and budget. CHEA's primary emphasis next year will be reauthorization of the Higher Education Act. CHEA will continue to focus on the three priorities established by the board: accreditation and student learning outcomes, accreditation and distance learning, and accreditation and international quality review.

### **Statement on Accreditation and Student Learning Outcomes**

The board of directors reviewed the revised *Statement on Accreditation and Student Learning Outcomes*. The current draft of the statement is the result of consultation with CHEA constituents and extensive revision of the document based on these deliberations. There will be some editing and additional revisions based on the most recent feedback on the draft before the board, with the intent of bringing the final revision of the *Statement* to the board of directors at the September 2003 meeting.

### **Council of Regional Accrediting Commissions**

President Eaton, reporting for Sandra Elman, Chair of the Council of Regional Accrediting Commissions (C-RAC), indicated that C-RAC has completed its work on student learning outcomes that has been supported by a grant from the Pew Charitable Trusts. A C-RAC retreat for the executive directors of the regional commissions as well as several members of each of the eight commissions took place in February 2003.

### **Specialized/National Accrediting Association Advisory Panel**

President Eaton, reporting for George Peterson, Chair of the Specialized/National Accrediting Association Advisory Panel, reported that the panel met on February 27, 2003. Major business included review of the proposed reauthorization agenda, discussion of accreditation and student learning outcomes, and discussion of the upcoming CHEA Enhancing Usefulness Workshop on June 19-20, 2003 in Washington, DC. The topic for the Workshop is accountability and accreditation.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

**The next meeting of the Board of Directors is September 22-23, 2003 in Washington, DC.**