January 31, 1999
San Diego, CA

Members Present: Chair Gordon Haaland, Treasurer Ira Lechner, Eleanor Baum, Barbara Brittingham, William DeLauder, John Keyser, Alfredo G. de los Santos Jr., Edward Donley, Dolores Sandoval

Members Absent: Vice Chair John Casteen, III; Secretary Vera King Farris; Thomas Jackson; David Winter

Staff and Consultants Present: Judith Eaton, Diana Cecil, Monica Chestnut, Gregory Fusco, David Merkowitz, Martin Michaelson, Michael Shapiro

Chair Gordon Haaland called the meeting to order at 1:08 pm.

Treasurer’s Report

The Board of Directors approved the treasurer’s report for July-December 1998 and approved the FY98 audit prepared by Lydon and Associates, Certified Public Accountants.

Election of Board Member

The Board of Directors approved the appointment of Dr. Piedad Robertson, president of Santa Monica College to the CHEA board effective February 1999 (Class of 2001) as presented by the Nominating Committee. Dr. Robertson replaces Dr. Jacquelyn Belcher, president of Georgia Perimeter College, who resigned in September 1998.

Formation of 1999 Nominating Committee

Article VI, Section 3 of the CHEA Bylaws call for the formation of a nominating committee to recommend individuals to stand for election to the CHEA board of directors. The nominating committee is appointed by the CHEA board of directors based on the recommendations of CHEA participating organizations. Four of the members of the nine-person committee come from the CHEA board of directors and five nominating committee members are selected from the higher education and accrediting communities.

The Board of Directors approved the reappointment of the 1998 nominating committee to serve as the 1999 nominating committee for the CHEA board of directors. The members of the 1999 nominating committee are: William DeLauder, Chair, president, Delaware State University; Adriana Barrera; John Casteen, III, president, University of Virginia; Edward Donley, former chairman, Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.; Brother Patrick Ellis, former president, Catholic University of America; R Kirby Godsey, president, Mercer University; Zelema Harris, president, Parkland College; Frances L. Horvath, M.D., Dean, School of Allied Health Professions, Saint Louis University; Blenda Wilson, president, California State University-Northridge.

Bylaw Change to Allow E-Mail Voting
The board of directors approved the revision of Article V, Section 10 of the CHEA Bylaws to allow for e-mail voting by members of the board of directors. This revision allows that any action required or permitted to be taken at a meeting of the board of directors may be taken without a meeting if a consent is executed in writing or by e-mail is signed or sent by e-mail by all of the directors then in office and such unanimous consent is filed with the minutes of proceedings of the Board.

Committee on Recognition

The CHEA Recognition Policy and Procedures call for the establishment of a Committee on Recognition responsible for considering the eligibility and recognition of new and continuing accrediting organizations. The committee is appointed by the CHEA board of directors and forwards its recommendations concerning eligibility and recognition to the board.

The board of directors approved the appointment of nine individuals to serve on the CHEA Committee on Recognition effective February 1999.

The members of the Committee on Recognition are: Roger Blunt, chairman of the board, president and CEO of Blunt Enterprises; Constance M. Carroll, president, San Diego Mesa College; Ron Cowell, president, The Education Policy and Leadership Center and former state representative and chair, House Committee on Education, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; Lawrence (Mac) Detmer, former executive director, Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs; Brother Patrick Ellis, former president, Catholic University of America; John C. Petersen, director emeritus, Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior colleges of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges; George D. Peterson, executive director, Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, Inc.; Shirley Peterson, president, Hood College; Mary Ann Swain, provost and vice president for academic affairs, Binghamton University-SUNY.

Government Relations Report

Gregory Fusco, CHEA’s consultant on governmental relations, presented a status report on the CHEA government relations’ initiatives and a recap of the Higher Education Act. The two issues of major importance to CHEA are negotiated rulemaking in which the regulations to accompany statutory changes are developed by the Department of Education in consultation with various higher education constituencies, and the distance Education Demonstration Program in which current provisions in the law are to be waived for eligible distance learning providers who submit successful proposals to the Department.

College Accreditation Survey

David Merkowitz, consultant to CHEA for public affairs, reported on a survey of the general public conducted for CHEA to learn what the public knew about accreditation and its purposes. Preliminary findings are that the public is generally aware of accreditation and believes that it provides information about the quality of an institution, indicates whether degrees will be accepted by graduate schools, certifies to employers that degrees are valid, and assists with qualifying for government funding.

Council of Regional Accrediting Commissions (CRAC)

James Rogers, executive director of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and chair of CRAC, reported that the regional accreditors were devoting a good deal of time to cross-regional issues and how regional accreditation can address emerging multi-regional, national, and global providers.

Specialized Advisory Panel
In the absence of Carl Monk, chair of the specialized advisory panel, the president reported that the Specialized Panel held a highly successful meeting with members of the Council of Academic Affairs of the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC) in December, 1998. This group will continue to pursue issues such as good practices for institutions and accreditors in the conducting of accreditation reviews.

*There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 pm.*