



**Council for
Higher Education
Accreditation**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

**MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2004
MARINA DEL REY, CA**

Summary of Major Actions and Discussion

(These are not official minutes of the CHEA Board of Directors)

Chair Rothkopf called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

TREASURER'S REPORT

FY04 First and Second Quarter Financial Report

The board of directors received the FY04 first and second quarter financial report.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Recognition

The CHEA Committee on Recognition met on November 24-25, 2003 and reviewed applications from organizations seeking CHEA recognition.

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

- American Culinary Federation, Inc., Accrediting Commission
- National Association of Public Administration and Public Affairs Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation
- Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc.

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

- American Academy for Liberal Education
- American Council on Pharmaceutical Education*
- Council on Chiropractic Education Commission on Education

The board of directors received a report on professional doctoral education from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Council on Academic Accreditation.

**As of the end of January 2004, the new name of this organization will be the American Council on Pharmacy Education.*

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Appointment of Committee on Directors

Chair Rothkopf appointed the following individuals to serve on the committee on directors: Robert Glidden (Chair), Eleanor Baum, Vernon Crawley, Gerald Garbacz and Gregory O'Brien. The committee is charged with recommending individuals to serve on the board for the 2004-2007 term and with recommending a slate of officers for 2004-2005.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Government Relations Report

Gregory Fusco, vice president for government and public affairs, presented an update on CHEA's government relations activities and especially reauthorization of the Higher Education Act (HEA). Congress returned in January 2004 and will clearly be active in HEA for the first half of the year, although there is considerable speculation that it might not complete the reauthorization until 2005. Regardless of when Congress will complete its work, a good deal will be done in the coming months with the key accreditation issues in HEA: distance learning, transfer of credit, and accountability (student learning outcomes and information to the public). The House GOP leadership will have a new bill on accountability, having already presented in late 2003 controversial proposals on both distance learning and transfer of credit with provisions that concern accreditors and institutions.

Mr. Fusco summarized our HEA reauthorization activities in 2003, noting that the same approach will be applied in the coming year. CHEA has developed a strategic policy template (the CHEA *Reauthorization Agenda*), developed alliances with key allies to support its positions, and has maintained ongoing communication with key Congressional leaders. CHEA has prepared, published and distributed readable and concise documents for policy makers on key topics in reauthorization, and has also developed other more comprehensive policy documents for analysts and experts to explain fully our views and rationale.

CHEA has initiated periodic "HEA Updates" which are sent to member institutions' chief executive officers and chief academic officers, accreditors and other educators, and has provided action alerts to accreditors via e-mail and conference calls on key legislative developments. CHEA sustains a proactive approach involving broad consultation, information sharing and liaison activities. As reauthorization continues to unfold, many institutions, accreditors, associations, government officials and policy analysts turn to CHEA first on federal policy issues related to accreditation.

Higher Education Transfer Alliance

President Eaton indicated to the board that CHEA continues to seek ways in which accreditation can play an even more useful role in transfer of credit. To this end, CHEA has been working with several accrediting organizations to establish a Higher Education Transfer Alliance (HETA). HETA would be a Web-based network of institutions accredited by a

CHEA or USDE-recognized accreditor that adhere to the principles in the 2000 CHEA statement on transfer. President Eaton invited comments from David Wolf, Executive Director Emeritus, Western Association of Schools and Colleges Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, and Steven Egglund, Executive Director, Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools, on accreditation and transfer of credit. CHEA has invited the 19 institutional accreditors to a transfer breakfast on January 28, 2004 to discuss the Alliance.

CHEA Quality Award in Student Achievement

CHEA is seeking to establish an award that acknowledges the progress that institutions have made in developing and using evidence of student learning outcomes in addressing academic quality. Board members approved the proposal, urging that the name of the award be modified to be more descriptive of the focus on institutions and that more than one award be made each year.

Specialized/National Advisory Panel

George Peterson, chair of the Specialized/National Advisory Panel, reported that the panel is developing a joint research project with the Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditation (ASPA). The most likely research topic is the cost and value of accreditation. Dr. Peterson also reported that the panel was exploring the feasibility of a CHEA conference or workshop on recognition of degrees, evaluation of foreign credentials, degree mills and accreditation mills.

Council of Regional Accrediting Commissions (C-RAC)

Steve Crow, executive director of the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association, reported for Sandra Elman, chair of C-RAC. Dr. Crow indicated the regional commissions planned to address best practices in electronic delivery, advancing degree levels (e.g. the move to baccalaureate degrees in community colleges), the growth of non-degree offerings, college and high school initiatives and information to the public.

**The next meeting of the
CHEA Board of Directors
will be held on
April 26-27, 2004
in Washington, DC.**

CHEA®

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