

## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:  
May 3, 2021

### ***Two Members Elected to DEAC Board of Directors***

The Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DEAC) is pleased to announce the election of two institution members to the DEAC Board of Directors.

During the election, held in conjunction with DEAC's 95th Annual Business Meeting, DEAC member institutions elected Dr. Khalilah Burton, Vice Provost, Institutional Effectiveness, Planning, and Compliance, Columbia Southern University, and Dr. Cheri St Arnaud, President, Chief Academic Officer, Aspen University, to serve a three-year term through March 31, 2024.

"I believe that accreditation is the foundation on which institutions of achievement and quality stand," Burton said. "The DEAC has been a consistent foundation of integrity, innovation, and achievement, and I am honored and excited to serve as a member of the DEAC Board of Directors to continue this important work."

"I am both proud and humbled to have been elected to serve as a DEAC Commissioner. It has been my experience with the DEAC that it holds itself to the highest standards of excellence, and I look forward to working closely with all of our member institutions and constituents to support the peer review process and to strengthen our collective ability to further ensure student success," said St Arnaud.

The DEAC Board of Directors is a collaborative and hardworking team of volunteers who help to guide and develop the DEAC in countless ways and do the hands-on work that is essential to reliable decisions on accreditation. "Cheri and Khalilah will be excellent additions," said Dr. Leah Matthews, DEAC Executive Director. "Their considerable skills will help the DEAC continue to grow and thrive as an exemplar of distance education quality assurance well into the future."

#### **ABOUT DEAC**

The Distance Education Accrediting Commission is a private, non-profit organization founded in 1926 that operates as an accreditor of distance education institutions. DEAC's goal is to ensure a high standard of educational quality in the distance education institutions it accredits and a quality education for the students who annually study at its accredited institutions.

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