

Report from the Accrediting Commission

May 10, 2016

The Board of Directors of the Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DEAC) met via conference call on Thursday, April 28, 2016. This report provides a summary of the actions taken by the board during this meeting.

Board Member Vacancy

It is with the gratitude of the Board of Directors and DEAC community that we announce the resignation of Wanda Nitsch from her position as Chair of the Board of Directors. Wanda made a significant contribution to DEAC during her many years as an evaluator and Chair for DEAC accreditation visits and during her tenure as Board member. We sincerely appreciate her commitment of time, thoughtfulness and hard work in the service of students and education quality.

In order to assure continuity of the Board's leadership, the directors have elected the following officers to serve for the 2016-2017 fiscal year:

Chair of the Executive Committee and the DEAC Board of Directors - Dr. Josette Katz, Professor, Atlantic Cape Community College

Vice-Chair – Robert Mayes, President, Columbia Southern University

Treasurer – Ann Rohr, President, Weston Distance Learning

At-Large Member – Patrick O'Malley Assurance Partner, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (Retired)

To fill the vacancy left by Wanda Nitsch on the Board of Directors, the Commission elected to use its authority under the by-laws to appoint a new commissioner. Article IV Section 8 of the *By-Laws of the Distance Education and Training Council* states:

Section 8. Vacancies. Vacancies existing by reason of resignation, death, incapacity, or removal before the expiration of a term may be filled by the Board.

Accordingly, the Commission is requesting letters of interest from qualified individuals employed by member institutions to fill the role of academic on the board. Article IV, Section 3 states:

Section 3. Qualifications of Directors. At least two (2) Directors must be "academics" defined by the Corporation as a person who works full time in an educational institution who, possibly in addition to other duties, actively teaches, delivers educational content to learners, or engages in educational research related to the institution's mission.

Interested individuals should send a letter of interest, and resume or CV to Leah Matthews at Leah.Matthews@deac.org on or before May 23, 2016.

Standards Committee Vacancy

DEAC is also seeking candidates to fill a vacancy on the standards committee. To fill this role, the DEAC is seeking a person with knowledge of DEAC standards, policies and procedures. This should be an experienced DEAC evaluator serving at an institution that has been accredited by DEAC for at least one accreditation cycle. Interested persons should send a letter of interest, summarizing their experience to Leah Matthews at Leah.Matthews@deac.org on or before May 25, 2016.

Other Updates from the Commission

New Divisions

Allied Business Schools located in Laguna Hills, California received approval for a new division:
Allied Professional Healthcare School

Voluntary Withdrawal from Accreditation

In accordance with its procedure for Notification and Information Sharing (Section X(F), Policies and Procedures, DEAC Accreditation Handbook) and 34 Code of Federal Regulations §602.26(a)(1)&(2), the Distance Education Accrediting Commission will, within 30 days of receiving notification from an institution of its decision to resign or voluntarily withdraw from accreditation, post a notice of the institution's resignation or voluntary withdraw of accreditation on its website and provide written notice to the U.S. Secretary of Education, appropriate state licensing agencies or authorizing agency, and the appropriate accrediting organizations. The Accrediting Commission also provides notice to the public on its website.

The Commission has received notice that the following institutions withdrew from accreditation.

- **Army Training Support Center**, Fort Eustus, VA 23604, effective March 21, 2016.
- **University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences**, 700 Windy Point Drive, San Marcos, CA 92069, effective May 31, 2016. The withdrawal includes the institution's locations at 5701 Sunset Drive, Miami, FL; 33143; 1 University Boulevard, St. Augustine Florida 32086; and 5401 La Crosse Ave, Austin, TX 7873.