Report from the Accrediting Commission

The DETC Accrediting Commission met June 5-6, 2009 and took the following actions:

New Commissioners

Two new Commissioners were elected by the DETC membership at its Annual Business Meeting on April 6, 2009 for terms 2009-2012. The Commission welcomed the following new Commissioners to the meeting:

Dr. Jack Nill, Dean of Education, Global University, Springfield, MO
Ms. Judith Turner, Vice President and Director of Education, Art Instruction Schools, Minneapolis, MN

One Institution Gains Accreditation

The following institution was accredited on June 6, 2009:

California Miramar University
9750 Miramar Road, Suite 180
San Diego, CA 92126
(Phone: 858-653-3000 or 877-570-5678; Fax: 858-653-6786; E-mail: info@calmu.edu and admissions@calmu.edu; Web Site: http://www.calmu.edu)
Founded 2005 (200912014). Offers Associate of Science in Business Administration, Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Bachelor of Science in Public Administration, Master of Business Administration, Master of Science in Strategic Leadership, Master of Taxation and Trade for Executives, and Master of Science in Telecommunications.

DOMINIC MWENJA, D.B.A., President and CEO (E-mail: dmwenja@calmu.edu)

One Institution Re-Accredited

The following institution was re-accredited:
Change of Name

The Commission approved the name changes for the following institutions:

- Australasian College of Health Sciences to American College of Healthcare Sciences
- Institute of Theology by Extension to INSTE Bible College
- Richard Milburn High School to Milburn High School Online

Voluntary Resignations of Accreditation

The following institutions voluntarily resigned accreditation as of March 31, 2009:

1. University of Southern Queensland, Australia
2. Instituto Postsecundario de Educacion a Distancia, Puerto Rico

Change of Location

The Commission approved a change of location for the following four institutions:

- Columbia Southern University moved to 21982 University Lane, Orange Beach, AL 36561
- HARDI Home Study Institute moved to 3455 Mill Run Drive, Suite 820, Columbus, OH 43026
- University of Atlanta moved to 6685 Peachtree Industrial Blvd., Atlanta, GA 30360
- University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences’ training site moved to 700 Windy Point Drive, San Marcos, CA 92069

New Courses/Programs

The Commission approved the following courses/programs:

Allied Business Schools, Inc.

- Hotel and Restaurant Management
- Insurance Billing and Reimbursement
- Medical Billing
- Medical Terminology for Billing
- Microsoft Word for Medical Transcriptionist
- Pharmacy Technician and Pharmacy Calculations
- Statistics, Modeling, and Finance
- Web Design

American Sentinel University

- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in Human Resources
- Master of Science with Nursing Specializations
- RN to Master of Science in Nursing
Applied Professional Training, Inc.
- Associate of Applied Science in Electric Power Systems

Aspen University
- Master of Business Administration in Pharmaceutical Marketing and Management

Ashworth University
- Associate of Science in Retail Management

California Coast University
- Bachelor of Science in Business Marketing

Grantham University
- Bachelor of Science in Accounting

Independence University
- Associate of Science in Business with an Emphasis in Property Management

McKinley College
- Associate of Applied Science in Business Management
- Associate of Applied Science in eCommerce
- Associate of Applied Science in Entrepreneurship
- Associate of Applied Science in Fashion Merchandising
- Associate of Applied Science in Financial Services Management

Penn Foster College
- Associate of Science in Retail Management

Sessions Online Schools of Design
- Advance CSS Layouts
- Maya Advance

Straighterline.com – General Education courses
- Introductory Algebra
- College Algebra
- Pre-Calculus
- Developmental Writing
- English Composition I
- English Composition II
- Economics I – Macroeconomics
- Economics II – Microeconomics
- Accounting I
- Accounting II

The Taft University System
- Doctorate in Business Administration

University of Management and Technology
- Master of Science in Criminal Justice
U.S. Career Institute
- Criminal Justice course
- Insurance Claims Adjuster

Yorktown University, Inc.
- Certificate in Political Theory
- Certificate in The American Founding
- Certificate in Political Economy
- Certificate in Early College
- Associate of Arts in Government
- Bachelor of Arts in Government
- Associate of Arts in Business
- Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration
- Master of Business Administration in Entrepreneurship

Policies, Procedures, and Standards

The Commission voted to give final approval to the following Standards and Policy:

- A.2. Business Standards
- C.26. Policy on Pilot Programs

The new Business Standards take effect June 6, 2009. To view a copy of these documents, please go to www.detc.org and select “Revised Documents” on the homepage. DETC has revised its Business Standards Course. The new online course will be available soon. Keep watching our web site for the announcement.

Proposed Changes

The Commission also approved for public comment the following:

- New Business Standard, Section I.A.8.d.: Incentives offered to students as motivation, reward, or for other purposes shall not exceed a nominal value.

- Proposed addition to C.5. Policy on Course/Program Approval – to be added to page 5 after Requesting Approval of a Revised Degree Program.

- **Requesting Approval of a Certificate Program**

Accredited institutions that already have degree-awarding approval may request approval of a “certificate program” as long as the courses comprising the certificate program are at the same degree level the institution is accredited to offer and the courses have already been reviewed as part of a degree program.

Although certificate programs can vary widely, they normally consist of a focused collection of credit-bearing courses that, when completed, affords the student a record of academic accomplishment in a given discipline or set of related disciplines.

Typically, certificate programs contain a collection of credit-bearing courses configured to equip students with specialized knowledge in a subject area with content that is less extensive than what is provided in an entire degree program. It is not an academic degree program, but the credits earned in the certificate program may be transferred to
an appropriate degree program if they otherwise meet the academic requirements of the degree program, and have been approved by DETC. The courses requirements cannot be changed if credit is being offered.

When requesting approval of a “certificate program,” please provide the following for the program:

- Purpose, goals and objectives of the certificate
- Population the certificate will serve
- Expected career or learning outcomes
- Program admission requirements
- Courses in the program and from which degree program
- Total number of credits earned
- Faculty qualifications
- Marketing information
- Enrollment agreement

If the certificate program contains any courses that have not previously been approved by DETC, these courses will need to be submitted for evaluation and approval.

The certificate program must have a disclaimer to prospective students that it is not a “degree” program, but a “certificate” program. The program should be restricted to the appropriate degree level, e.g., baccalaureate, master’s, etc. depending on which courses make up the certificate program.

As stated in DETC Business Standards I.B.2, the word “accredited” may not be used in conjunction with certification programs, which are different from “certificate” programs described above.

Any comments on the above proposed standards and policy additions should be sent to Sally Welch (sally@detc.org) before November 1, 2009. Final adoption of these additions will be considered at the Commission’s January 2010 meeting.

Applications for Accreditation and Re-accreditation

The following institutions have applied for DETC initial accreditation or five-year reaccreditation:

First Time Applicants:

- Abraham Lincoln University School of Law, Los Angeles, CA
- Aerobics and Fitness Association of America, Sherman Oaks, CA
- American Fitness Professionals and Associates, Manahawkin, NJ
- American Graduate School of Education, Tempe, AZ
- BILD International University, Ames, IA
- California Southern University, Santa Ana, CA
- ChildCare Education Institute, Duluth, GA
- Hawthorn University, Whitethorn, CA
- National Institute of Whole Health, Wellesley, MA
- Piccolo International University, Scottsdale, AZ
- Trinity College of the Bible and Theological Seminary, Newburgh, IN

Applicants for Five-Year Re-accreditation:

- American Institute of Applied Science, Youngsville, NC
- American Sentinel University, Aurora, CO

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Atlantic University, Virginia Beach, VA
Blackstone Career Institute, Emmaus, PA
California Coast University, Santa Ana, CA
City Vision, Kansas City, MO
Concord Law School, Los Angeles, CA
Hadley School for the Blind, Winnetka, IL
ICS Canada, Westmount, QC, Canada
Paralegal Institute, Glendale, AZ
Penn Foster Career School, Scranton, PA
Penn Foster College, Scottsdale, AZ
Weston Distance Learning (At-Home Professions, U.S. Career Institute, McKinley College), Fort Collins, CO

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Accrediting Commission will be January 15-16, 2010. All matters should be brought to the attention of Nan Ridgeway, Director of Accreditation (nan@detc.org) by no later than November 1, 2009.

DETC Directory Available

The DETC 2009-2010 Directory of Accredited Institutions is now available from DETC’s web site’s home page. Please go to www.detc.org and select the appropriate link on the homepage.

Michael P. Lambert, Executive Director