

## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: April 1, 2025

### **Announcing New DEAC Staff Member Kate Sudarsan**

**Kate Holmquest Sudarsan** joins the DEAC staff with twenty years of experience in higher education, workforce development, and distance learning program development and management. As Founding Administrator and later Chief Operating Officer of Wright Graduate University for the Realization of Human Potential, Ms. Sudarsan led the University through its state approval, launch, initial accreditation, Title IV authorization, transition to primarily distance learning, and later accreditation by DEAC.



While responsible for university operations and compliance Ms. Sudarsan also developed programs and curriculum, led training seminars, facilitated learning laboratories, and provided individual coaching for the Wright Foundation's non-credit leadership development programs. She has served as an Educational Standards Evaluator for DEAC since 2021.

"We are very pleased to introduce Kate Sudarsan as DEAC's new Manager of Organizational Learning," said Leah Matthews, Executive Director. "This role will be instrumental in advancing our organization-wide initiative to provide meaningful institutional development activities, training programs for our peer evaluators, and foster professional growth throughout the organization."

Ms. Sudarsan holds a Bachelor of Arts in English and Secondary Education from Augustana University (Sioux Falls), where she also served as Director of Church Relations, and a Master of Arts in Theological Studies from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. Her professional credentials include the Professional Certified Coach (PCC) designation from the International Coach Federation (ICF) and Project Management Professional (PMP) certification from Project Management International.

"Having led a small university from its founding to recognition by multiple accrediting agencies, I have experienced firsthand how DEAC's standards and processes impact the level of excellence that students and school administrators alike can achieve," said Sudarsan. "I am delighted to step into this role supporting the continued development of institutional leaders, volunteer evaluators, and others dedicated to high-quality distance learning."

**ABOUT DEAC:** The Distance Education Accrediting Commission is a private, non-profit organization founded in 1926 that operates as a national accreditor of distance education institutions.

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