

NEWS RELEASE

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DEAC Appoints New Members to the Commission

Washington, D.C. — The Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DEAC) is pleased to announce the appointment of two distinguished leaders in higher education to its Commission: Dr. Timothy J. Harrington, President of Bottega University, and Dr. Michael Moore, Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of Arkansas System - Grantham. The appointments were made in accordance with Article IV, Section 8 of the *Bylaws* to fill two vacancies on the Commission. The partial terms begin immediately and will continue through March 31, 2027.

“We are honored to welcome Dr. Harrington and Dr. Moore to the Commission,” said Dr. Marcia Ditmyer, Chair of the Commission. “Their deep commitment to innovation, access, and student success in distance education will be invaluable as we continue to advance our mission of quality assurance in online learning.”

Dr. Harrington brings over 30 years of experience in educational leadership, with a career spanning K–12, higher education, and ed-tech innovation. Throughout his career, Dr. Harrington has partnered with ed-tech innovators, mentored software startups, and guided learning organizations in adopting and assessing emerging technologies to enhance online teaching and learning. “I am eager to contribute to DEAC’s forward-thinking vision,” said Dr. Harrington. “Distance education has the power to transform lives, and I look forward to supporting how DEAC institutions are redefining how students learn and thrive.”

Dr. Moore, a first-generation college graduate, has dedicated his career to expanding access to affordable, high-quality education. A significant portion of his recent work has centered on developing innovative strategies to remove barriers to student success. His extensive experience in building, launching, and leading online degree programs, including establishing a new online university from the ground up, has created opportunities for students to achieve their academic goals. “Joining the DEAC Board is a meaningful opportunity to help shape the future of distance learning,” said Dr. Moore. “I’m passionate about removing barriers to education and ensuring that all students have the tools they need to succeed.”

Both appointees bring a wealth of experience in online program development, strategic planning, and academic leadership, reinforcing DEAC’s commitment to excellence in distance education.

About DEAC

The Distance Education Accrediting Commission is a private, nonprofit organization founded in 1926. As a national accreditor of distance education institutions, DEAC ensures high standards of educational quality and student outcomes across its accredited institutions.

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