



The Association for
Biblical Higher Education
Commission on Accreditation

**COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION (COA)
DELEGATE ASSEMBLY
Minutes
February 22, 2019**

Call to Order

Chair Stephen Roy called the meeting to order at 11:43 am.

Seating of Delegates

Chair Roy reminded the assembly that Commission Bylaws restrict voting eligibility to credentialed delegates. Ballots have been distributed. Only those with recognized, official ballots may vote.

Acknowledgement of Recording Secretary

Chair Roy recognized the recording secretary (COA Secretary, Kevin Hester)

Approval of Minutes

Approval of the Minutes from February 23, 2018 Delegate Assembly Minutes Circulated on the App before the meeting.

MSC to receive the minutes as presented.

COA Director's Report

Chair Roy recognized Dr. Ronald Kroll for the report of the COA Director.

- 1. Change of Scope.** The petition to expand ABHE's scope of recognition with USDE to include master's degrees and graduate certificates will be submitted by the end of May (must address 17 regulations, 15 of which were part of the 2017 renewal of recognition). Decision will be made at the Winter meeting of NACIQI in February 2020.
- 2. New CHEA Standards.** New standards went into effect January 1, emphasizing transparency and accountability. The new Accreditation Fact Sheet, currently under development, will include the official statement of accreditation, sanctions, approved programs and off-campus locations, recent actions, and urls for institutional outcomes. Institutions are reminded that they need to make their outcomes readily available to the public.
- 3. New Accreditation Manual.** The 2019 COA Manual will be released in March.
- 4. Review of Standards 1 and 2:** Proposed changes were circulated for public comment and comments reviewed by the Committee on Criteria. Subsequent revisions based on comments received will be distributed for public comment this summer 2019, and a final proposal presented to the Delegate Assembly for action in February 2020.
- 5. Achieving Accreditation Standards Conference.** ABHE will offer a new

conference May 20-21, 2019, reviewing all Standards and Essential Elements. Institutions approaching reaffirmation may wish to take advantage of this conference for professional development for their accreditation team. Information will be available on the ABHE website.

- 6. Changes in Dues and Fees.** COA has approved the Dues Task Force recommendation to establish a flat fee for COA dues. Dues will be \$2,800 per institution for 2019-20. Adjustments to fees for staff visits, applications, and substantive changes were reviewed and will take effect May 1, 2019.
- 7. Personnel Changes.**
 - Dr. Michael Jackson is serving as COA Research Associate to verifying accreditation information with institutions.
 - Jane King, COA Accreditation Services Coordinator/Bookkeeper has relocated to South Carolina. A search is underway for a full-time Accreditation Services Coordinator
 - We also are advertising for a part-time Accreditation Services Assistant
- 8. Institutions Served:** As a result of February 2019 COA actions, we now have 151 applicant, candidate, and accredited institutions.

Summary of February 2019 COA Actions

Institutions Granted Applicant Status (9 institutions between June 2018 and Feb. 2019):

All Saints Bible College
Berkeley Christian College and Seminary
Calvary Chapel Bible College
Georgia Central University
In His Image Bible Institute International
International University and Theological Seminary
Northwest Baptist Seminary
The Salvation Army College for Officer Training
Western University and Conservatory

Institutions Granted Candidate Status (4 institutions):

Saint Photius Orthodox Seminary
Southern Bible Institute and Seminary
Southern Reformed College and Seminary
Texas Baptist Institute and Seminary

Institutions Granted Reaffirmation of Accreditation (12 institutions):

Alleghany Wesleyan College
Baptist University of the Americas
Boise Bible College
Columbia International University
Dallas Christian College
Grace Mission
Heritage Christian University
Horizon University

Kentucky Mountain Bible College
Kingswood University
Luther Rice College and Seminary
Ozark Christian College
Southeastern Baptist College
Tri-state Bible College
Washington University of Virginia

Institutions Granted Initial Accreditation (4 institutions)

Faith Bible Seminary
Summit Christian College
Union Bible College
Yellowstone Christian College

Proposed Revisions to Conditions of Eligibility (voice vote)

Chair Roy indicated that the proposed changes had been previously circulated and were available in the App for additional review.

Chair Roy recognized Director Kroll to review the proposed changes to the Conditions of Eligibility:

- Tenets of Faith and nonprofit status become COEs 1 and 2 (already required by policy).
- COE 6 focuses on “capacity and authority” for the CEO.
- COE 13 requires “sustained and viable student enrollment in its educational programs over the past two years (typically an FTE of 10 or headcount of 30 students or more).”

MSC to adopt the changes to the Conditions of Eligibility as presented.

COA Nominating Report (balloting)

Nominees

- Unexpired three-year term (2019-2022)
 - David Kiff and Ian O’Brien
- Four-Year term (2019-2023)
 - Shirley Cadle and Andrea Short
 - Rodney Jackson and Bryan O’Neal
- Incumbent Commissioners eligible for re-election
 - Kevin L. Hester
 - David Legg
 - Janet Starks

Results of the voting will be released at this evening’s Celebration Banquet.

Closing Remarks/Adjournment

Chair Roy reminded the Delegate Assembly of the need to maintain a continuous cycle of institutional improvement. The purpose of this is so that our students might be excellent in their service of the Lord.

MSC to adjourn the meeting. (m), (s), carried.

Chair Roy adjourned the meeting with prayer at 12:08 pm.

Supplemental: Results of Elections

- Unexpired three-year term (2019-2022)
 - Ian O'Brien
- Four-Year term (2019-2023)
 - Shirley Cadle
 - Bryan O'Neal
- Incumbent Commissioners re-elected to a second term
 - Kevin Hester
 - David Legg
 - Janet Starks

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Hester,
Secretary