



**COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION (COA)  
DELEGATE ASSEMBLY  
Minutes  
February 14, 2020**

**Call to Order**

Chair Stephen Roy called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm and started the meeting with prayer.

**Seating of Delegates**

Chair Roy reminded assembly that Commission Bylaws restrict voting to credentialed delegates.

**Acknowledgement of Recording Secretary**

Chair Roy recognized the recording secretary (COA Secretary, Charles Faber).

**Approval of Minutes**

Approval of the Minutes from February 22, 2019 (Circulated on the Annual Meeting App)

**MSC to receive the minutes as presented.**

**COA Director's Report** — Chair Roy recognized Dr. Ronald Kroll for the report of the COA Director)

- USDE petition to change of scope to include graduate degrees
  - We submitted our petition in the May 2019 and heard back from our analyst that USDE had changed regulations just after we had submitted our petition and that we would be expected to revise our petition to take into account those revisions.
  - We responded to the analyst report in November 2019 and were placed on NACIQI's agenda for February 2020. After the hearing, the staff recommendation and NACIQI recommendation will be forwarded to the Deputy Under Secretary for the final decision. It usually takes two to three months before a decision is made.
  - Related to this petition, we had a representative from NACIQI at our Commission meeting this year.

- CHEA Renewal of Recognition
  - We have submitted our application for renewal of recognition for another seven years.
  - A representative from CHEA sat at our Commission meeting.
  - Our report is due in April 2020. We will appear before CHEA in June 2020, and the decision will be made in November 2020.
  
- New USDE regulations, July 1
  - On November 1, 2019, USDE made public several changes to come into effect July 1, 2020, particularly regarding substantive changes and teach-out plans.
    - Accreditors will have some additional liberty in handling substantive changes.
    - They also have raised bar on teach-out plans because of the recent increases in the number of closures. Additionally, all candidate institutions must have a teach-out plan.
  - Also included in the reported changes is that the USDE will clearly state that they make no distinction between regional and national accreditation. Both the USDE Secretary and Under Secretary have reaffirmed this in oral presentations. However, USDE cannot force states or institutions to adopt USDE definitions. How quickly any changes will occur is unclear. If the validity of your accreditation is challenged, however, we can provide official language regarding the USDE position.
  
- Call for Comments
  - We are asking institutions to review and comment on proposed changes to one condition of eligibility, eleven policies, and forty-seven glossary terms. A call for comments will be issued in April.
  
- Change in COA dues: \$2,800 to \$3,000 for 2020-21
  - Commission has approved a balanced budget.
  - The approved budget will require a slight upward adjustment in dues.

### **Summary of February 2020 COA Actions**

- Election of Commission Officers for 2020-2021
  - Kevin Hester, Welch College (TN), Chair
  - Janet Starks, Kingswood University (NB), Vice Chair
  - Charles Faber, Boise Bible College (ID) Secretary
  
- Institutions Granted Applicant Status (5)
  1. Christian Leaders College (Clearwater FL)
  2. Ouachita Hills College (Amity, AR)
  3. Teleo University (Minneapolis, MN)
  4. Faith Bible College International (Charleston, ME)
  5. Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (Kansas City, MO)

- Institutions Granted Candidate Status (5)
  1. All Saints Bible College (Memphis, TN)
  2. Carver Baptist Bible College, Institute and Theological Seminary (Kansas City, MO)
  3. Highlands College (Birmingham, AL)
  4. Regional Christian University (Edinburg, TX)
  5. Veritas College International Graduate School (San Antonio, TX)
- Institutions Granted Initial Accreditation (4)
  1. Christ Mission College (San Antonio, TX)
  2. Faith Bible College (Norfolk, VA)
  3. Latin American Bible Institute (La Puente, CA)
  4. Virginia Christian University (Chantilly, VA)
- Institutions Granted Reaffirmation of Accreditation (6)
  1. Baptist Bible College and Graduate School of Theology (Springfield, MO)
  2. Bethlehem College and Seminary (Minneapolis, MN)
  3. Mid-South Christian College (Memphis, TN)
  4. Pacific Rim Christian University (Honolulu, HI)
  5. Saint Louis Christian College (Florissant, MO)
  6. Simmons College of Kentucky (Louisville, KY)

### **Proposed Revisions to Standards 1 & 2 (voice vote)**

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

**MSC to adopt the changes to Standards 1 & 2 as presented.**

### **COA Nominating Committee Report (balloting)**

#### Nominees

- Four-year term (2020-2024)
  - Jena Dunn, Provost, Stark College and Seminary (TX)
  - Elaine Phillips, Provost, Family of Faith Christian University (OK)
- Four-Year term (2020-2024)
  - Joel Badal, Dean of Institutional Effectiveness, Professor of Leadership Studies, College of Biblical Studies (TX)
  - James Estep, Vice President of Academics, Central Christian College of the Bible (MO)
- Incumbent Commissioners eligible for re-election (2 seats)
  - Charles Faber, Academic Dean, Boise Bible College
  - Janet Hicks, Professor and Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, Clarks Summit University (PA)

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

### **Closing Remarks/Adjournment**

- Chair Roy made a few closing comments.
- Chair Roy led in a closing prayer.

Adjournment (1:59 pm)

### **MSC to adjourn the Delegate Assembly meeting**

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### **Supplemental: Results of Elections**

- Four-year term (2020-2024)
  - Elaine Phillips, Provost, Family of Faith Christian University (OK)
- Four-Year term (2020-2024)
  - Joel Badal, Dean of Institutional Effectiveness, Professor of Leadership Studies, College of Biblical Studies (TX)
- Incumbent Commissioners re-elected (2020-2024)
  - Charles Faber, Academic Dean, Boise Bible College
  - Janet Hicks, Professor and Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, Clarks Summit University (PA)