



2025 NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

COA Nominating Committee: Jena Dunn (chair), Elaine Phillips, Jon Jones

NOMINEES FOR THE COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION

Four Year Term (2025-2029), vote for one: Teddy Bitner OR Donald Grafton

Teddy D. Bitner, Chief Academic Officer, Calvary University (MO)

- Ed.D. (Higher Education Leadership), Aspen University; D.Min. (Pastoral), Trinity Theological Seminary; M.M.A.S. (History), US Army Command and General Staff College; M.A. (Christian Ministry), Wheaton College; B.S.B.A. (Accounting), University of Central Missouri
- Served in the United States Army for 26 years; retired as a Colonel.
- Serving current position since 2009; previously served as Institutional Researcher and General Education Division Chair at Calvary from 2002 to 2009
- Served ABHE as a peer reviewer on seven comprehensive visits (including three as team chair), led one focused visit, and presented at ABHE Annual Meetings
- Thoroughly enjoys teaching history and government
- Serves as a small group leader in the local church



Donald Grafton, Vice President of Academic Affairs, New Hope Christian College (OR)

- D.Min. (Formational Leadership), Lancaster Bible College (PA); M.Div. (Practical Theology), Regent University (VA); B.A. (Bible and Interdisciplinary Studies), New Hope Christian College (OR)
- Vice President of Academic Affairs at New Hope Christian College since 2022; previously served as Academic Dean from 2018-2021 and Registrar from 2016-2018
- Enjoys being married to wife of 26 years and still having four sons in the house, being a grandparent of twin girls, rockhounding and rock music (godly metalcore to be specific), and serving at the Chinese church in various roles
- Has served on three ABHE evaluation team visits



Four Year Term (2025-2029), vote for one: Jena Dunn *

Jena Dunn, Provost, Stark College and Seminary (TX)

- Ed.D. (Higher Education Leadership), Texas A&M University – Commerce; M.Div. (Cross-Cultural Studies), Hardin-Simmons University; B.S., Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi)
- Served with Stark College & Seminary in various roles (Registrar, Faculty, Student Services, Retention, Admissions, Academic Leadership, Executive Cabinet) since 2008, including serving as Accreditation Liaison since 2014
- Focus of Ed.D. dissertation research was Religious Educational Certificates and Diplomas
- Student Services evaluator and Team Chair on ABHE accreditation teams
- Appointed to the Commission during 2020-2021 to fill an unexpired term
- Married to Tyler, a pilot for American Airlines, since 2012. They have one son, McCullen.



Four Year Term (2025-2029), vote for one: Martin (Marty) Harris *

Martin (Marty) Harris, PhD, President, LABI College (CA)

- Post-Doc, Cornell University; Internship, UCLA; Ph.D., M.S., Clinical Psychology, Washington State University; B.A., Psychology, UC Irvine
- Served as President, Provost, Dean, Chair, and Accreditation Liaison at LABI College; Professor, Azusa Pacific University Seminary, LABI College, and Southern California University of Health Sciences
- Editorial Board Member, Journal of Psychological Issues in Organizational Culture (2009-20014); Grant reviewer (1998 - present): U.S. Department of Education, U.S. Department of Justice, SAMHSA, and APA. ABHE Site Team Evaluator (2015-Present) for the administrative area
- Ordained Minister (1998 - present); Pastor, Homeless Christian Fellowship (1998-2014)
- Married to Nancy Harris (for 30 years); three children: Kitty, Maricella, Luke, and one dog (Copper)



**incumbent Commissioner, eligible for re-election, running unopposed*