Fall Conference
September 10 - 12, 2017
Westin Arlington Gateway
801 N Glebe Rd • Arlington VA 22203
Pre-conference
(F. Scott Fitzgerald CDE)
9:00 am - 9:45 am
Orientation to ASPA
Find out about ASPA, its strategic activities and higher education and accreditation. All are welcome.
Joseph Vibert, Executive Director, Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors

10:00 am - 11:00 am
Regional Accreditation 101
Learn about how our regional colleagues conduct the accreditation process.
Belle Wheelan, President, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges

11:00 am - 1:00 pm
Lunch - on your own

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Member Session
Open to all staff and board/commissioners of ASPA full members.

Conference
5:00 pm - 6:30 pm
Opening Reception (Pre-Function C)

7:30 am - 8:30 am
Breakfast (F. Scott Fitzgerald AB)

8:30 am - 9:30 am
The Trouble with Accreditation
Critics across the political spectrum blame accreditation for a host of problems afflicting higher education, often for conflicting reasons: accreditors are too weak to catch bad actors; accreditors are too stringent and prevent innovation; accreditors can’t handle both quality assurance and quality improvement; etc. What is it that policymakers and elected officials really want from accreditation and is there any hope that accrediting bodies can really fulfill all the expectations?
Eric Kelderman, Senior Reporter, The Chronicle of Higher Education

9:45 am - 10:45 am
Cultural Competence
Cultural competence implies that organizations have a set of values, demonstrated behaviors, policies, and structures that enable professionals to work effectively across diverse cultural and social groups. Along with an expert in this area, programmatic accreditors will discuss how program compliance with the standards of cultural competence can be met through structural, curricular and institutional dimensions.
Rajade Berry-James, Associate Professor, Department of Public Administration, School of Public & International Affairs, North Carolina State University
Stacey Borasky, Director of Accreditation, Council on Social Work Education
Crystal Calarusse, Chief Accreditation Officer, Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation, Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs and Administration

11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Diversity Requirements in Accreditation and Risk Management Considerations
Accreditors embrace various values that are incorporated into their standards and culture. A panel of experts will explore the challenges presented for institutions and accrediting organizations that have made a commitment to diversity and offer practical guidance on navigating these challenges.
Elise Scanlon, Elise Scanlon Law Group
Lisa Parker, Attorney, Husch Blackwell Law Firm
Julie Miceli, Attorney, Husch Blackwell Law Firm

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
Lunch (F. Scott Fitzgerald AB)
Leading the Standards Revision Process

Specialized and professional accreditors regularly review and revise standards in response to changes in the profession, calls from various publics, influences from the policy and regulatory environments, or a combination of these factors. How does an accrediting agency plan for a potentially multi-year process, establish strong rationales for revisions, and ensure programs comply with new standards? Our program will address:

- Demonstrating validity and reliability in standards;
- Ensuring evidence-based approaches to data collection in the standards revision process;
- Effectively planning, managing resources, and leveraging technology;
- Communicating goals and employing effective communication strategies before, during, and after the revision process; and
- Implementing new standards—from coaching programs to enforcing compliance.

Attendees will learn about these processes and gain ideas for enhancing the effectiveness of their accreditation operations.

1:00 pm - 1:45 pm
Standards: are they doing what we want them to do?
Each accreditation standard should articulate or advance an important concept that relates to quality in education. Using the lenses of reliability and validity can help ensure that standards are moving us toward our end goal.
Mollie Mulvanity, Deputy Director, Council on Education for Public Health

1:45 pm - 2:00 pm
Break

2:00 pm - 3:15 pm
Sound rationales: evidence-informed data collection for standards revision
- Putting theory to practice: validity, reliability, and empirical support;
- Gathering sound quantitative and qualitative evidence early in the standards revision process;
- Good practice for developing a standards revision survey: questions to ask and how to analyze the results; and
- Identifying other approaches to data collection: qualitative or text review, social media, public meetings, listening sessions, etc.
Tom Smalling, Executive Director, Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care
Julie Cavallario, Accreditation Associate & Communications Coordinator, Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education
JoanBesing, Professor and Director of Graduate Clinical Programs, Communication Sciences and Disorders, Montclair State University
Heidi Vellenga, Associate Director, Commission on English Language Program Accreditation

3:15 pm - 3:30 pm
Break

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Activity: burning questions and lessons from experience
ASPA conference attendees bring a range of experience with standards revision. This session will elicit key questions and concerns about standards revision from members and foster small group discussions that allow for information exchange among attendees with varying levels of standards review and revision experience.
Mollie Mulvanity, Deputy Director, Council on Education for Public Health

5:00 pm - 6:30 pm
Reception (Pre-Function C)
Tuesday September 12, 2017 (all sessions in F. Scott Fitzgerald CDE)

7:30 am - 8:30 am
Breakfast (F. Scott Fitzgerald AB)

8:30 am - 9:15 am
Ready, Set, Go: planning, managing resources, and leveraging technology for the standards revision process
• Defining a timeline from preparation through implementation;
• Anticipating resource needs: money, people, time, technology
• Composing standards revision committees and engaging stakeholders; and
• Using technology and social media effectively.
Heather Stagliano, Director of Accreditation, The American Occupational Therapy Association
Kristopher Pritchard, Accreditation and Education Programs Manager, Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board
Pamela Roberts, Director, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Academic & Physician Informatics, Cedars-Sinai Health System

9:15 am - 9:30 am
Break

9:30 am - 10:30 am
Communication: maintaining open channels with stakeholders throughout the standards revision process
• Methods, tools, and channels for communicating with different audiences;
• Communicating throughout the standards revision process: before, during and after; and
• Different needs and strategies for communicating with programs, the public, the profession, staff, site visitors, board/commissions, students, and related agencies (e.g., credentialing/licensure).
Heather Stagliano, Director of Accreditation, The American Occupational Therapy Association
Charles Hickman, Chief Constituent Relations Officer, ABET
Jenny Gunderman, Chief Operating Officer, Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs

10:30 am - 11:00 am
Break

11:00 am - 11:55 pm
Implementation: collaboration and coaching for compliance
• Setting and communicating reasonable timelines for achieving compliance;
• Identifying non-compliance and developing a plan to move forward; and
• Coaching and providing support to programs working to comply with new standards.
Mollie Mulvanity, Deputy Director, Council on Education for Public Health
Laura Lien, Assistant Director, Education & Research Division, American Veterinary Medical Association
Sharon Beasley, Associate Director, Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing
Kristen Varol, Director of Accreditation Services, Council on Education for Public Health

11:55 am - 12:00 pm
Concluding Remarks
Mollie Mulvanity, Deputy Director, Council on Education for Public Health

Post-conference
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Health Professions Accreditors Collaborative (HPAC): Working Together to Facilitate Interprofessional Education
• Receive and discuss draft document between HPAC and the National Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education
J. Gregory Boyer, Assistant Executive Director & Director, Professional Degree Program Accreditation, Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education

Join the conversation about the ASPA conference online using #ASPAFALL2017