

Spring
Conference
April 2 - 4, 2017

Millennium Knickerbocker
163 East Walton Place • Chicago IL, 60611

ASPA  Association of Specialized
and Professional Accreditors

Pre-conference

(Continental)

8:30 am - 9:30 am

Orientation to ASPA

Find out about ASPA, its strategic activities and higher education and accreditation. All are welcome.

9:45 am - 10:30 am

Recognition Roundtable

Recognized accreditors are invited to an informal discussion about any issues related to recognition by ED or CHEA.

10:45 am - 11:45 am

Accreditation in a Virtual Environment

Roundtable discussion and sharing ideas about the various aspects of the accreditation process that can take place virtually: site visits, decision making meetings, volunteer orientation and training, etc.

11:45 am - 1:00 pm

Lunch - on your own

1:00 pm - 3:15 pm

Member Session (Crystal Ballroom)
open to all staff of Members

3:30 pm - 4:15 pm

Focus Groups – Site Visitor Project

Conference

(Crystal Ballroom)

4:15 pm - 4:45 pm

Annual Members' Meeting

Elections; Service Awards

4:45 pm - 5:15 pm

Board Meeting

Budget and Dues; Committee Appointments

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Opening Reception (Prince of Wales)
Sponsored by Indigo Interactive

7:30 am - 8:30 am

Breakfast (Continental)

8:30 am - 9:30 am

Will the Trump Administration Let Accreditors Off the Hook?

After 8 years of increasing accountability and regulation under President Obama, the White House and Education Department are promising a completely different approach. President Trump and Education Secretary Betsy DeVos have said they will lower the regulatory burden for colleges and universities. But there has been little specific information about how this could affect accreditation. And although there has been a big change in the executive branch of government, there has been little change in Congress where both Democrats and Republicans have been keen on blaming accreditors for a host of ills.
Eric Kelderman, Senior Reporter, The Chronicle of Higher Education

9:45 am - 10:45 am

Where's the Data?

Accreditors are asked to demonstrate that programs/institutions have good outcomes: graduation rates, debt, repayment and default rates, student earnings, job placement, professional and vocational certification and licensing exam pass rates, etc. There are concerns about data accuracy, and availability of data to programmatic accreditors. Data available to institutions and accreditors and how it can be used will be discussed.
Laura Rasar King, Executive Director, Council on Education for Public Health
Darlena Jones, Director of Assessment and Research, Association for Institutional Research
Amy Rowe, Director of Institutional Review and Development, Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools
Douglas T. Shapiro, Executive Research Director, National Student Clearinghouse Research Center

11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Complaints – What's an Accrator to Do?

Although complaints can be contentious and time consuming, it is critical that accreditors respect the concerns of students and the due process rights of accredited programs. This session will explore:

- The duty of accreditors to respond effectively and discretely to negative information about accredited programs;
- Determining when a complaint warrants review and investigation;
- Fairness and consistency in carrying out complaint review procedures;
- Connecting the complaint process to other accreditation policies and procedures; and
- Top ten considerations.

Elise Scanlon, Principal, Elise Scanlon Law Group

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Lunch (Continental)

Program Outcomes and Communicating the Value of Accreditation

Programmatic accreditors protect the public by ensuring that students are equipped with the necessary competencies to practice safely and effectively in their chosen profession. Our program will focus on good practices in and discussions about:

- Identifying program and student achievement outcomes that are relevant to the profession;
- Establishing expected achievement levels and communicating supporting rationales to communities of interest;
- Determining next steps when programs do not achieve prescribed thresholds set by the program or the accreditor;
- Communicating good outcomes achieved through accreditation.

1:00 pm - 1:10 pm

Welcome

Benjamin Murray, Director of Accreditation Services, Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education

1:10 pm - 2:10 pm

Identifying Relevant Program and Student Achievement Outcomes

- Implementing a process to support defensible selections of outcome indicators
- Engaging communities of interest when establishing program and student achievement outcomes

Karen Martens Brandt, Director, Education and Research, American Veterinary Association

Robert Shaw, Assistant Executive Director, The National Board for Respiratory Care, Inc.

Andrea Rutledge, Executive Director, National Architectural Accrediting Board

2:10 pm - 2:30 pm

Break

2:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Establishing Expected Levels of Achievement and Communicating Supporting Rationales: Quantitative Indicators

- Establishing benchmarks and bright lines using good practices and evidence-based approaches
- Explaining rationales for outcomes thresholds to the profession, programs, and recognition bodies
- Assisting accredited programs in measuring expected outcomes
- Revisiting and revising outcome measures: are you measuring what you think you are measuring?

Marsal P. Stoll, Chief Executive Officer, Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, Inc.

Robert Shaw, Assistant Executive Director, The National Board for Respiratory Care, Inc.

Kelly Velasquez, Associate Director, Accreditation, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology

Nicole Williams, Senior Accreditation Specialist, Council on Education for Public Health

Sandra Wise, Senior Director Accreditation, American Physical Therapy Association, Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education

4:00 pm - 4:15 pm

Break

4:15 pm - 5:00 pm

Demonstrating Compliance with Expected Levels of Achievement: Contextual Implications

- Recognizing that programs with different missions may articulate success differently
- Establishing rationales for various definitions of success that may not meet quantitative thresholds
- Explaining rationales for various definitions of success to the profession, programs, and recognition bodies

Daniel Michalski, Professional Development Consultant

Benjamin Murray, Director of Accreditation Services, Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education

Kevin Lyness, Program Director, Antioch University New England and former board member of the Council on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education

Jacqueline Wall, Associate Executive Director, American Psychological Association, Commission on Accreditation

5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Reception (Prince of Wales)

Award presentation

Sponsored by ARMATURE

7:30 am - 8:30 am

Breakfast (Continental)

8:30 am - 10:00 am

Working with Programs to Achieve Thresholds: Determining Next Steps when Programs do not Achieve Prescribed Thresholds Set by the Program or the Accrator

- Effective strategies for communicating with programs that do not meet outcome thresholds
- Mentoring and training for programs that do not meet outcome thresholds
- Strategies for identifying and communicating good practices in successfully meeting outcome thresholds to all programs

Mary Gregoire, Executive Director, Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics

Amy Anichini, Manager, Program Accreditation, Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics

India Tips, Assistant Executive Director, Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools

Pamela Hansen, Director of Accreditation, Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education

10:00 am - 10:30 am

Break

10:30 am - 11:50 am

Communicating Good Outcomes Achieved Through Accreditation

- Discuss good outcomes: protecting the public and fostering program improvement, etc.
- Strategies for creating an effective communication plan that highlights good outcomes and addresses external misperceptions and unrealistic expectations
- Identifying target audiences and tailoring messaging accordingly
- Success stories and lessons learned

Benjamin Murray, Director of Accreditation Services, Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education

Nicole Fauteux, Propensity, LLC
Kimberly May, former Director of Communications, American Veterinary Medicine Association

11:50 am - 12:00 pm

Concluding Remarks

Benjamin Murray, Director of Accreditation Services Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education

Post-conference

1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Health Professions Accreditors Collaborative (HPAC)

- Strategic planning for HPAC
- Feedback from the National Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education August 2016 Summit on what institutions are looking for from accreditors in the area of Interprofessional Education

Peter H. Vlasses, Executive Director Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education