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# 1A/2H

## Action

### *Ad Hoc Committee/General Session*

### **Interview, Recommendation, and Appointment of Members for the Committee on Accreditation**

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**Executive Summary:** This agenda item provides information about the finalists for open positions on the Committee on Accreditation (COA). After interviewing the finalists from institutions of higher education and K-12, the Ad Hoc Committee will select three individuals to recommend to the Commission for appointment to the COA and may recommend additional individuals as alternates.

**Recommended Action:** That the Ad Hoc Committee recommend and the Commission (a) approve the recommendations for three new members of the COA, one from the K-12 community and two from postsecondary education; and (b) that the Commission approve the recommendation of individuals for the COA Alternate List, if appropriate.

**Presenter:** Cheryl Hickey, Administrator, Professional Services Division

### **Strategic Plan Goal**

#### ***II. Program Quality and Accountability***

- b) Effectively and efficiently monitor program implementation and outcomes, hold all approved educator preparation programs to high standards and require continuous improvement through the accreditation process.

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# Interview, Recommendation, and Appointment of Members for the Committee on Accreditation

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## Introduction

This agenda item provides information about the finalists for the Committee on Accreditation (COA). Five finalists are scheduled to be interviewed by the Ad Hoc Committee of the Commission. The terms of three incumbents will end on June 30, 2020 and will need to be filled. One of these is a K-12 position and two are postsecondary positions. In addition, the Commission may also appoint any individuals for the Alternate List. In the event of an unanticipated vacancy on the COA, the Executive Director can appoint an individual from the Alternate List to the COA. The terms for the new members of the COA and the alternates will begin July 1, 2020 and extend through June 30, 2024.

## Background

Education Code §44373(a) sets forth that the Commission selects the members of the COA. The COA is composed of 12 members: six must be from postsecondary education and six must be certificated professionals in public schools, school districts, or county offices of education in California. Consistent with the adopted *Accreditation Framework*, the Commission appoints individuals to the COA for a four-year term. Listed below are the current members of the COA and when each of their terms ends.

### Members of the Committee on Accreditation

#### K-12 Professionals

**Cynthia Amos**

College and Career Coach  
Los Angeles Unified School District  
*Term Ends June 30, 2022*

**Jomeline Balatayo**

English Language Development Teacher  
Culver City High School  
*Term Ends June 30, 2023*

**Katrine Czajkowski**

Program Manager, Teacher Induction  
Sweetwater Union High School District  
*Term Ends June 30, 2022*

**Martin Martinez**

Director, School of Education  
Sacramento County Office of Education  
*Term Ends June 30, 2023*

**Anna W. Moore**

Principal  
Olivet Elementary Charter School  
*Term Ends June 30, 2021*

**Gerard Morrison**

Teacher  
Long Beach Unified School District  
*Term Ends June 30, 2020*

## Postsecondary Professionals

**Jose Luis Alvarado**

Dean  
California State University, Monterey Bay  
*Term Ends June 30, 2021*

**Cheryl Forbes**

Director of Teacher Education and Lecturer  
University of California, San Diego  
*Term Ends June 30, 2020*

**Cathy Creasia**

Director of Accreditation and Credentialing  
Rossier School of Education  
University of Southern California  
*Term Ends June 30, 2022*

**Michael Hillis**

Dean, Graduate School of Education  
California Lutheran University  
*Term Ends June 30, 2023*

**Robert Frelly**

Director of Music Education  
Chapman University  
*Term Ends June 30, 2021*

**Iris Riggs**

Professor Teacher Education and  
Foundations  
California State University, San Bernardino  
*Term Ends June 30, 2020*

The current alternate list for the COA is included in the chart below:

### Current Alternates for the Committee on Accreditation

K-12 Professionals	Postsecondary Professionals
<p><b>Suzanne Borgese</b> Teacher/Education Specialist Placentia Yorba Linda Unified School District <i>Availability for Appointment ends June 2023</i></p>	<p><b>Dr. Lisa Kirtman</b> Dean, College of Education California State University, Fullerton <i>Availability for Appointment ends June 2023</i></p>
<p><b>Kelly Skon</b> District Coordinator Educational Services Saddleback Valley Unified School District <i>Availability for Appointment ends June 2022</i></p>	<p><b>Sarah MacGregor</b> Assistant Dean, Student Services and Assessment Santa Clara University <i>Availability for Appointment ends June 2021</i></p>
<p><b>Simone Simmons</b> Stockton Unified School District <i>Availability for Appointment ends June 2020</i></p>	<p><b>Lori Selby</b> Assessment Director and Lecturer California Lutheran University <i>Availability for Appointment ends June 2020</i></p>
	<p><b>J. Kevin Taylor</b> Director School of Education Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo <i>Availability for Appointment ends June 2022</i></p>

**Impact of Anticipated Vacancies on the Composition of the Committee on Accreditation**

Section 2.B (1) of the *Accreditation Framework* addresses the membership of the COA. It states that selection of members is based on the breadth of their experience, the diversity of their

perspectives, and “their distinguished records of accomplishment in education” (Education Code §44373(a)). All members serve as members-at-large. No member serves on the COA as a representative of any organization, institution/program sponsor, or constituency. However, the membership of the COA is carefully constructed such that a variety of professional perspectives is ensured in considering accreditation related decisions. The three vacancies impact the composition of the COA. Therefore, the Commission should take into consideration the following provisions of the *Framework* in its selection process for new COA members.

- a. *“The Committee includes members from the public K-12 school system, and from public and private postsecondary institutions.”*

Note: All five K-12 continuing representatives are from the public-school system. There is no requirement in statute or in Commission policy that a K-12 appointment must be a full-time practicing educator, but the Commission may want to consider this factor in making a determination about appointments to the COA.

Of the six current higher education members, three are from public institutions (the California State University system and the University of California system) and three are from private institutions. The two members whose terms are completed are both from public institutions.

- b. *“The elementary and secondary school members include certificated administrators, teachers, and at least one member involved in a professional educator preparation program.”*

The remaining five K-12 membership on the COA includes a college career coach, a program manager, one principal, one English Language Development teacher, and one director of the School of Education. Seven of the nine remaining COA members are involved in a professional educator preparation program in some manner.

- c. *“The postsecondary members include administrators and faculty members, both of whom must be involved in professional educator preparation programs.”*

Many of the remaining postsecondary members serve in multiple roles for their institution. The remaining postsecondary membership on the COA includes two Deans, a Director of Accreditation and Credentialing, and two Directors of Education. Three of the remaining postsecondary members are faculty members. All are involved in professional educator preparation programs and therefore the continuing membership meets these objectives.

- d. *“To the maximum extent possible, Committee membership is balanced according to ethnicity, gender, geographic regions and across credentials awarded by the Commission.”*

Of the continuing members, four are male and five are female. All three members whose terms are expiring one is male and two female. Six of the nine continuing members are from Southern California and three are from Northern California. Of the three COA members whose terms are expiring, all are from Southern California.

### **Responsibilities of the Commission and the Committee on Accreditation in Relation to the Accreditation System**

It may be useful to members of the Commission in considering candidates to serve on the COA to review the specific responsibilities of the Commission and COA as outlined in the Education Code.

### **Responsibilities of the Commission in Relation to the Accreditation System**

The Commission's essential responsibilities related to the accreditation system as defined by the California Education Code and outlined in the Accreditation Framework are listed below:

1. Adopt and Modify the Accreditation Framework
2. Establish and Modify Standards for Educator Preparation
3. Initial Approval of Institutions/Program Sponsors
4. Hear and Resolve Accreditation Appeals
5. Establish a Nominating Panel
6. Appoint the Committee on Accreditation
7. Address Issues and Refer Concerns related to Accreditation
8. Review the Annual Report by the COA
9. Allocate Resources Annually for Accreditation Operations
10. Review and Sponsor Legislation Related to Accreditation

### **Responsibilities of the Committee on Accreditation in Relation to the Accreditation System**

The COA is responsible for implementing the Commission's accreditation system. Its specific responsibilities as defined by the California Education Code and outlined in the Accreditation Framework are listed below:

1. Comparability of Standards
2. Initial Approval of Programs
3. Continuing Accreditation Decisions
4. Accreditation Procedures
5. Monitor the Accreditation System
6. Communication with and reporting to the Commission
7. Evaluate Accreditation Policies and Practices

### **Selection Process for New Members of the COA**

Staff began the multi-step selection process for new COA members in November 2019 in accordance with the provisions of the *Accreditation Framework*. Information and the nomination forms were made available on the Commission website. All nomination materials were due February 28, 2020.

Commission staff made effort to broadly publicize the COA vacancies. Historically it has been difficult to recruit K-12 candidates for the COA due to the time commitment and number of days an individual would be out of the classroom attending COA meetings. Commission staff included information on the vacancies and application process in the PSD E-news for a number of weeks. The Commission received a total of 5 applications for the COA - three from higher education and two from K-12. Typically, a nominating panel, whose membership is appointed equally by the Chair of the Commission and the COA, is brought together to review the applications and to put forward for interview with the Commission at least two highly qualified nominees for each vacant seat on the committee. Due to the limited number of applications received, a nominating panel was not needed for this selection process. All applicants were moved forward to the Commission for an interview and for consideration for possible appointment.

The criteria for membership in the COA is set forth in the *Accreditation Framework* as follows (Section 2B.2):

*The criteria for membership on the Committee are: evidence of achievement in the education profession; recognized professional or scholarly contributions in the field of education; recognition of excellence by peers; experience with and sensitivity to issues of human diversity; distinguished service in the field of educator preparation; knowledge of issues related to the preparation and licensing of education professionals; length of professional service; and possession of appropriate educational degrees and professional credentials.*

The Ad Hoc Committee will interview the finalists and review the incumbent recommendations at this Commission meeting and recommend to the full Commission the selection of one K-12 members and two higher education members in accordance with the following *Accreditation Framework* language (Section 2C.3):

*The Commission selects and appoints the members and alternate members of the Committee by selecting from the nominations submitted by the Panel.*

The Ad Hoc Committee may also recommend to the full Commission the appointment of any finalists to the alternate pool, to help fill vacancies on the COA should any occur.

### **Finalists for the Committee on Accreditation**

There are three vacancies on the COA for appointment in 2020: one K-12 vacancy and two postsecondary vacancies. The names and affiliation of the finalists are provided in the table below. The application materials for each finalist are included in [Appendix A](#).

<b>K-12 Finalists for the COA</b>	<b>Nominated by</b>
<b>Jason A. Lea</b> Executive Director Sonoma County Office of Education	<i>John Laughlin</i> Associate Superintendent Human Resources Sonoma County Office of Education
<b>Gerard Morrison</b> Teacher Long Beach Unified School District	<i>Neal Cates</i> Teacher Long Beach Unified School District

<b>Postsecondary Finalists for the COA</b>	<b>Nominated by</b>
<b>Cheryl Forbes</b> Director of Teacher Education and Lecturer University of California, San Diego	<i>Bernard Bresser</i> Lecturer/Supervisor of Teacher Education University of California, San Diego
<b>Lynn Larsen</b> Professor Brandman University	<i>Patricia Clark White</i> Interim Dean, School of Education Brandman University
<b>Doris Madrigal</b> Associate Dean for Academic Services Loyola Marymount University	<i>Mary K. McCullough</i> Interim Dean, School of Education Loyola Marymount University

### **Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommends that the Ad Hoc Committee recommend to the full Commission:

- The appointment of two individuals to assume the two vacant postsecondary positions on the COA.
- The appointment of one individual to assume the one vacant K-12 position on the COA.
- The appointment of any individual(s) to the COA Alternate List.

In addition, staff recommends that the Commission review and approve the recommended appointments from the Ad Hoc Committee.