

Nominations and Election of Co-Chairs For 2012-2013

June 2013

Overview of this Report

This item calls for the Committee on Accreditation to nominate and elect individuals to serve as Co-Chairs, one from K-12 education and one from post-secondary education, for the 2012-2013 meeting year. The election of Co-Chairs will take place at the June 2012 meeting. The newly elected Co-Chairs will take office at the August 2012 meeting and serve through the June 2013 meeting. The election shall take place in accordance with the adopted procedures of the Committee on Accreditation.

Staff Recommendation

Nominations were opened at the May 2012 COA meeting and will continue at this (June 2012) meeting until closed by the Administrator of Accreditation or the Director of the Professional Services Division. At the May 2012 meeting the following members were nominated for the position of Co-Chair: Joseph Jimenez, representing the K-12 community and Anne Jones, representing Higher Education.

Staff recommends that the Committee conduct its election in accordance with its adopted procedures.

Background to this Report

The Committee on Accreditation has developed a Procedures Manual to govern its activities. The Manual was last revised in April 2010. Chapter Two deals with the *Organization of the Committee*. It lists the officers (two Co-Chairs – one representing K-12 public education and one representing post-secondary education) and their duties, procedures for the election of officers, a description of terms and term limits, and a mechanism for appointing officers pro-tempore.

According to the Procedures Manual, the "...nominations are to be made at the next to last regularly scheduled meeting of the Committee and the election should take place at the last Committee meeting of the year." Therefore the nominations were opened at the May 2012 COA meeting and the election should take place at the June 2012 COA meeting.

Section #101 of the Committee on Accreditation Procedures Manual states that "Adoption, amendment or repeal of any procedure is accomplished by majority vote of the Committee. Procedures of the Committee may be enacted at any regular public meeting of the Committee." Majority vote is defined as a majority of members in attendance when there is a quorum present. A quorum is defined as seven or more members of the Committee.

Section #202 of the COA Procedures Manual states, "No member of the Committee shall be elected to the office of Co-Chair of the Committee for more than two one-year terms." Currently, Anne Jones and Nancy Watkins are Co-Chairs for 2011-12. Anne Jones has served one term as Co-Chair and, therefore, is eligible to serve another term. Nancy Watkins has served a total of three years as Co-Chair. Last year, the COA voted to waive Section 202 of the COA Procedures Manual and re-elect Nancy Watkins as Co-Chair for 2011-12. The COA may waive provisions in its Procedures Manual by a majority vote.

Committee member Gary Kinsey served two terms as Co-Chair in his first term on the COA. Gary Kinsey was reappointed to the Committee on Accreditation by the Commission in April 2012. Section 202 of the Procedures Manual does not specify whether the two one-year term limit is for one's entire service on the Committee or for each term. This may be a clarification the COA may wish to make in its Procedures Manual for the future.

No other Committee member has previously served as Co-Chair of the Committee to date. If a member plans to make a nomination, the consent of the individual nominated must be obtained. The Administrator of Accreditation will conduct the election in June 2012.