

Council for
Higher Education
Accreditation

[®]
CHEA

QUALITY ASSURANCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

***Judith S. Eaton, President
Council for Higher Education Accreditation USA***

***The Association of Universities in Lebanon
April 29 and 30, 2011
Beirut, Lebanon***

OVERVIEW OF U.S. INSTITUTIONS

COMMON UNDERSTANDINGS AMONG INSTITUTIONS

ACCREDITATION'S ROLE TO ASSURE QUALITY IN INSTITUTIONS

QUALITY CULTURE IN INSTITUTIONS

ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

Council for
Higher Education
Accreditation

CHEA[®]

OVERVIEW OF U.S. INSTITUTIONS

MORE THAN 7,400 COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

18 MILLION STUDENTS

ACCESS A DRIVING FORCE

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE FUNDING

A “NON-SYSTEM”:

INSTITUTIONAL LEADERSHIP AND AUTONOMY

DECENTRALIZATION

Council for
Higher Education
Accreditation

**®
CHEA**

OVERVIEW OF U.S. INSTITUTIONS - 2

Council for
Higher Education
Accreditation

CHEA[®]

RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES

DOCTORAL UNIVERSITIES

MASTERS INSTITUTIONS

BACCALAUREATE INSTITUTIONS

ASSOCIATE DEGREE INSTITUTIONS

“POSTSECONDARY” – SUB-ASSOCIATE

OVERVIEW OF INSTITUTIONS - 3

Council for
Higher Education
Accreditation

[®]
CHEA

PUBLIC, PRIVATE

NONPROFIT OR FOR-PROFIT

LIBERAL ARTS AND GENERAL EDUCATION

CAREER EDUCATION

REMEDIAL EDUCATION

CONTINUING EDUCATION

DEGREE OR GOALS SHORT OF DEGREE

COMMON UNDERSTANDINGS AMONG INSTITUTIONS

Council for
Higher Education
Accreditation

CHEA[®]

IMPORTANCE OF MISSION

INSTITUTIONAL AUTONOMY/LEADERSHIP

***FACULTY LEADERSHIP IN CURRICULUM, HIRING,
STANDARDS***

ACADEMIC FREEDOM

GENERAL EDUCATION

PEER REVIEW

ACCREDITATION'S ROLE TO ASSURE QUALITY IN INSTITUTIONS

Council for
Higher Education
Accreditation

**®
CHEA**

ANOTHER “NON-SYSTEM”:

- ***INDEPENDENT, PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS***
- ***CREATED AND FUNDED BY INSTITUTIONS***
- ***REGIONAL, FAITH-RELATED, CAREER-RELATED***
- ***SEPARATE STANDARDS***

ACCREDITATION'S ROLE TO ASSURE QUALITY IN INSTITUTIONS - 2

Council for
Higher Education
Accreditation

**®
CHEA**

***PROVIDES QUALITY ASSURANCE AND QUALITY
IMPROVEMENT***

TRUST-BASED

STANDARDS-BASED

PROFESSIONAL JUDGMENT

SELF- AND PEER REVIEW

EXTERNAL "CONSULTANTS"

ACCREDITATION'S ROLE TO ASSURE QUALITY IN INSTITUTIONS - 3

Council for
Higher Education
Accreditation

**®
CHEA**

THRESHOLD LEGITIMACY

ACCESS TO PUBLIC AND PRIVATE FUNDS

ASSISTS WITH STUDENT MOBILITY

ACCREDITATION AND GOVERNMENT

Council for
Higher Education
Accreditation

[®]
CHEA

PARTNERSHIP

FEDERAL “RECOGNITION”

STATE RELIANCE

NO FUNDING

QUALITY CULTURE IN INSTITUTIONS

Council for
Higher Education
Accreditation

CHEA[®]

BEYOND ACCREDITATION...

- ***DEPARTMENT AND PROGRAM REVIEW***
- ***HIRING AND TENURE***
- ***PUBLICATIONS***
- ***CURRICULUM AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT***
- ***GENERAL EDUCATION GOALS***

WHAT WE DO NOT HAVE....

Council for
Higher Education
Accreditation

CHEA[®]

***DIRECT GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF
INSTITUTIONS OR ACCREDITATION***

NATIONAL STANDARDS

NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK

***NATIONAL COMPARISONS (BUT DO HAVE
COMMERCIAL RANKINGS)***

ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

Council for
Higher Education
Accreditation

CHEA[®]

***TOO LITTLE MONEY: ALTERNATIVE BUSINESS
MODEL? ACADEMIC MODEL?***

***PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY FOR INSTITUTIONS AND
ACCREDITATION:***

- ***WHAT DO STUDENTS LEARN?***
- ***TRANSPARENCY***

BUILD PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

FOR-PROFIT HIGHER EDUCATION

***EXPANDING ROLE OF GOVERNMENT IN ACADEMIC
ARENA***

LIKELY IMPACT OF ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

Council for
Higher Education
Accreditation

CHEA[®]

INSTITUTION-LED ENTERPRISE GIVES WAY TO GREATER GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY (SELF-REGULATION TO SHARED REGULATION)

INSTITUTIONS AND ACCREDITATION:

MORE TRANSPARENCY

MORE EVIDENCE OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

MORE ATTENTION TO COMPARISONS

PERHAPS:

NATIONAL STANDARDS

NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK

Council for
Higher Education
Accreditation

[®]
CHEA

THANK YOU