

# Quality in Higher Education: The Role of the Board

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# Quality Assurance in Higher Education

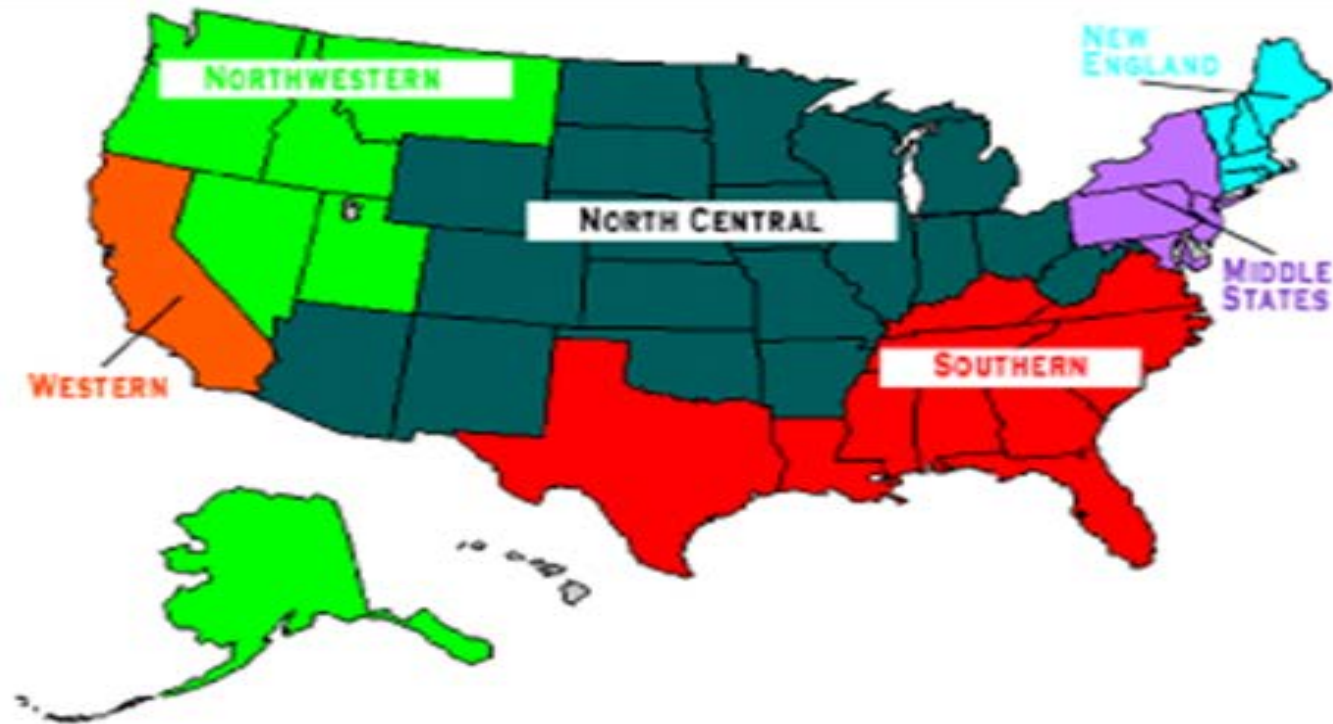
- States
  - License to do business
  - Consumer Protection
  - Funding
- Accreditor
  - Quality Assurance to Public
  - Continuous Improvement
  - Title IV Gatekeeper
- Federal Government
  - Financial Aid

# Accreditation

- Founded in late 1800s with institutions defining what characteristics were needed to be considered an institution of higher education
- Formed partnership with Federal Government for financial aid (1955)
- Seven Regional Accrediting Agencies as well as several National and Programmatic Accrediting Agencies

# SIX REGIONAL ACCREDITING ASSOCIATIONS

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# SACSCOC

- Second largest of the regionals
  - 795 institutions (11 states and several international sites)
  - Public, Private, For-Profit, All degree levels
  - Elected Board (77 members)
  - Peer Review Process
  - *Principles of Accreditation*
    - Integrity
    - Core Requirements (12)
    - Comprehensive Standards
    - Federal Requirements
  - Voluntary and non-governmental

# Processes

- Initial Accreditation
- Reaffirmation of Accreditation
  
- Substantive Changes
  
- Formal Complaints
- Unsolicited Information
- Self-disclosure

# Reaffirmation Process

- Leadership Orientation
- Compliance Certification
- Off-Site Committee Review
- Focused Report
- On-Site Committee Review
  - QEP
  - Non-Compliance Issues
  - Selected Issues for US DOE
- C&R Committee Review
- Executive Council Review
- Board Approval

# ROLES OF THE BOARD

- *Policy-making body*
- *Hire, Evaluate and, when necessary, Fire the CEO*
- *Fiduciary responsibility for the institution*



# UNDERSTANDING YOUR ROLE

## ***Complementary but separate duties***

*[Clear and appropriate distinction, in writing & in practice, between policy-making function of board & responsibility of administration & faculty to implement policy.] (CS 3.2.6)*

# ROLES OF THE BOARD

## ***Responsibility & authority of faculty***

*[Policies on the responsibility and authority of faculty in governance and academic matters.] (CR 2.2 & CS 3.7.5)*

# ROLES OF THE BOARD

## ***Academic freedom***

*[Ensures adequate procedures for safeguarding and protecting academic freedom.] (CS 3.7.4)*

# ROLES OF THE BOARD

## ***Protect institution from undue influence***

*[Maintain freedom from undue influence from political, religious, or other external bodies and protects the institution from such influence.] (CS 3.2.4)*

# ROLES OF THE BOARD

## ***Conflict of interest***

*[Presiding officer of the board & a majority of the other voting members of the board are free of any contractual, employment, or personal or familial financial interest in the institution.] (CR 2.2)*

# ROLES OF THE BOARD

## ***Select and evaluate the CEO***

*[The governing board is responsible for the selection and the periodic evaluation of the chief executive officer.] (CS 3.2.1)*

# ROLES OF THE BOARD

## ***Board member dismissal***

*[Policy whereby board members can be dismissed only for appropriate reasons and by a fair process.] (CS 3.2.5)*

# ROLES OF THE BOARD

***Ensuring adequate financial resources and stability*** (CR 2.2; CR 2.11.1; CS 3.10.1)

***Provide appropriate financial statements*** (CR 2.11.1; CS 3.10.3; FR 4.7)



# Institutional Issues

- Student Success
  - Planning and Assessment
  - Remedial Education
  - Completion/Graduation Rates
  - Retention Rates
  - Program Review
  - Transfer of Credits





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