



Wednesday, August 19, 2015

Dear School Owners & Interested Parties:

As Disney's Buzz Lightyear says, "To Infinity and Beyond" is truly a great reflection of our commitment to all the schools and students that we serve. As we prepare to close out our 2014-2015 fiscal year, I can't help but take the time to reflect on what a dynamic year we had. And while there are so many opportunities to mention, from continuing to maximize our efforts towards embracing a "less paper" and more automated workplace (through enhanced utilization of scanning, barcoding and electronic database management), to engaging in Commission-level strategic planning processes (with a focus on long-range planning, enhanced system efficiencies, and organizational customer satisfaction initiatives), and to continuing to provide a wide-range of relevant and meaningful educational webinars, I will focus on highlighting the following additional accomplishments:

- Revised Standard VII Criterion 2(a) & (b)
- Established an ad-hoc committee to explore implementation of standardized # of hours for the Cosmetology program throughout the United States
- Finalized and implemented the electronic Commission Elections Process
- Implemented the NACCAS STAR Core Values Principles
- Implementation of a centralized support group ("Help Desk") for screening and addressing incoming Accreditation questions via the telephone

Yet, with a plate full of accomplishments over the prior fiscal year, we are even more excited to focus on what lies ahead for us in the 2015-2016 fiscal year. From the implementation of an online payment processing/sustaining fees process, the streamlining of accreditation review/substantive change processes and the consolidation/integration of an online ISS and Visit Report process (all with a focus on again instilling more automated and electronic processes throughout the organization to positively impact our member institutions' accreditation tasks), to the implementation of an enhanced Phone system/Directory to facilitate and expedite the handling of specific departmental needs and requests from outside callers to again continuing to provide a wide-range of relevant and meaningful educational webinars, NACCAS continues to press forward in implementing creative and strategic initiatives to enhance our member's experiences. Further, in the next several months we will focusing specifically on the following initiatives:

- Creation of Compliance Coordinators (in place of state-specific Regional Accreditation Specialists) to facilitate enhanced processing of accreditation activities
- Implementation of "Virtual School Visits," a coordinated effort, led by a NACCAS Compliance Coordinator and carried out by an on-site ICPE Team-Lead
- Return of the quarterly NACCAS Now (post Cliff's retirement)
- Preparing to lease or purchase a new home for NACCAS as our lease is up in September of 2016.

NACCAS has a dynamic and progressive path laid ahead of it and we have a tremendous workforce behind us to make our future bright! As a national accretitor, striving for excellence in all that we do, we can not continue to be successful without constant and consistent reflection, enhancement,

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streamlining and change to make all of our processes, practices and systems work at their optimum levels.

We look forward to our future and continued growth in ensuring we provide our staff and member institutions with the tools and resources they need to be successful!

Tony Mirando, MS, DC

PS - Look for the winter issue of the NACCAS NOW, in the first quarter of 2016.

Reminder to NACCAS-accredited schools: Your school's email address may be important to NACCAS as a part of the requirement that you are able to receive all official communications relevant to your accreditation. Before you unsubscribe make sure that NACCAS has a valid email address for your school.

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