

DoD Civilian Education and Professional Development Newsletter

Volume 5 Issue 2

April 2009

Accreditation Activities	1
Federal Degree Granting Institutions (FDGI)	1
The DoD Worldwide Education Symposium 2009	2
Civilian Education Discussions	2
DoD's Updated E-Learning Standard	3
DoD Instructional Systems Design (DoD ISD)	4
Other Helpful Information	4

Accreditation Activities

As [announced](#), the Department of Education established five negotiated rulemaking committees to propose regulations under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended. On March 4-5 they hosted the first [Team III--Accreditation](#) session. During the first session the accreditation negotiators provided preliminary discussion on [16 issues](#), with potential issues [17-19](#) added at the end. The negotiated rulemaking goal for implementing the [Higher Education Opportunity Act \(P.L. 110-315\)](#) (HEOA) is to: "Develop regulations that achieve intended public policy goals while limiting unintended negative consequences and costs." For general information on negotiated rulemaking, see The Negotiated Rulemaking Process for Title IV Regulations, [Frequently Asked Questions](#):

1. What is negotiated rulemaking?
2. How are the issues to be negotiated determined?
3. How are negotiators selected?

4. Is negotiated rulemaking open to the public?
5. How is the negotiated rulemaking process structured and what is the time commitment for a negotiator?
6. How is consensus defined for purposes of negotiated rulemaking?
7. What happens after the negotiations have concluded?

The accreditation team negotiations and subsequent way the HEOA is implemented is relevant to DoD education and training institutions, our students, participants and can affect the reputation of DoD educational quality. As such, the CE&PD branch plans to attend these sessions, as public observers, and will keep the DoD educational community apprised of proposed rules and any implementation that might affect the DoD community. The second session of meetings is scheduled for April 21-23, 2009.



Federal Degree Granting Institutions (FDGI)

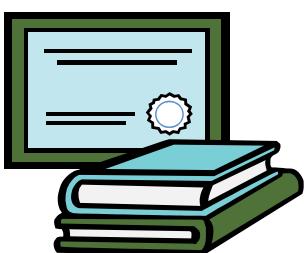
CE&PD Branch wants to thank the Joint Forces Staff College (JFSC) for hosting a meeting of the FDGI meeting on March 25-27, 2009. During this meeting representatives from the FDGI institutions were able to discuss the theme "Collectively Dealing with Change."

In this collegial setting, the FDGI participants discussed the policy which in 1954 approved Federal agencies and institutions to grant academic degrees; reviewed the current status and future directions of accreditation in the United States; discussed the preparation for being a site-visiting team member for PAJE (or Process for Accreditation of Joint Education), and presented their institutional updates.

The institutional updates provided a broad overview of FDGI institutions and consisted of such topic areas as: institutional mission, senior leadership, key educational issues, currently available academic positions, and support issues needed from other FDGI members or institutions.

The functions of FDGI's original charter were:

- to promote academic excellence and competence to meet technical and professional requirements within the Federal sector in the 21st century;
- to provide a forum for dialogue and



Federal Degree Granting Institutions (FDGI) continued



coordinated action to support higher education within the Federal government, emphasizing the unique mission of each institution's educational program;

- to promote recognition as a united entity of higher education within the Federal government;
- to advance relations with the civilian academic community.

FDGI consists of the DoD members listed on our website, other Federal institutions, and stakeholders. The CE&PD web site lists: [DoD Civilian Educational Institutions and Professional Development Programs and DoD Professional Military Education \(PME\) Institutions](#).

The DoD Worldwide Education Symposium 2009

The DoD Worldwide Education Symposium will be held in Atlanta, GA on July 27-31 at the Marriott Atlanta Marquis hotel.

Some of the key objectives of the symposium are: (1) to ensure that the symposium is not a single event in time, but is part of an on-going learning experience for the voluntary education community; (2) to increase cooperation be-

tween DoD educational personnel and academic institution personnel; and (3) to stimulate creative thoughts about current educational issues.

The theme for the 2009 conference, is “Educating American’s Patriots” and it will address concurrently six issues throughout the meeting: (1) higher education; (2) education services and support; (3) distance learning; (4) creden-

tialing and testing; (5) innovative partnerships; and (6) legislation and total force initiative.

For further information on the 2009 DoD Worldwide Education Symposium, visit: <http://www.ww09atlanta.com>.

Civilian Education Discussions

One way to find out what's happening in accreditation is to visit the regional accreditation organization websites. These sites provide a range of products from newsletters to council actions. Here are some direct links: (1) [Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools - Newsletter](#); (2) [New England Association of Schools and Colleges - Upcoming evaluations and recent commission actions](#); (3) [North Central Association of Colleges and Schools](#) (4) [Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities - Updates](#); (5) [Southern Association of Colleges and Schools - Announcements and other news](#); and (6)

[Western Association of Schools and Colleges – Actions](#)

In-the-news items include:

Washington Post - [Army Is Offering Civilian Workers More Training](#) February 4, 2009; Page A15.

“The Army has launched a new effort to improve the training of its enormous civilian workforce, seeking to repair a long-neglected system for those employees who don't wear uniforms to work.”

“The Army Civilian University, established last year with a mission to inte-

grate the Army's civilian training, took its first major step last week by assuming oversight of Army Management Staff College, the service's top school for civilian leadership and management education at Fort Belvoir, in Northern Virginia.” [more](#)

The Chronicle - [Professors Regard Online Instruction as Less Effective Than Classroom Learning](#) February 10, 2009, (Subscription may be required to open this link)

“Online courses may be gaining a foothold in higher education, but substantial skepticism over their effectiveness re-

Civilian Education Discussions continued

mains, according to results of two recent surveys.” ...

“Instructors' extra time and effort aren't being rewarded financially or professionally, and what's more, online education doesn't translate into better learning outcomes, said respondents in the faculty survey. More than 10,000 faculty members at 67 public campuses responded to the survey.” [more](#)

Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) - [The HEOA of 2008: What does it mean and what does it do?](#) Volume 4, Number 1, October 30, 2008

Inside Higher Ed –

- (1) [Back to Normal \(Read: Boring\)](#), March 6, 2009. This article gives an overview of the negotiated rule-making re-start.
- (2) [Sparrows in the Lion's Den: Welcome to NACIQI](#), February 23,

2009. As the federal government prepares to reconstitute its accreditation advisory committee, this article urges potential NACIQI members to care about learning as well as regulation.

- (3) [College for All](#), February 25, 2009. What does the President's emphasis on college education mean to DoD employees? This article dis-



cusses the educational impact of what the president said in his first [speech to a joint session of Congress](#).

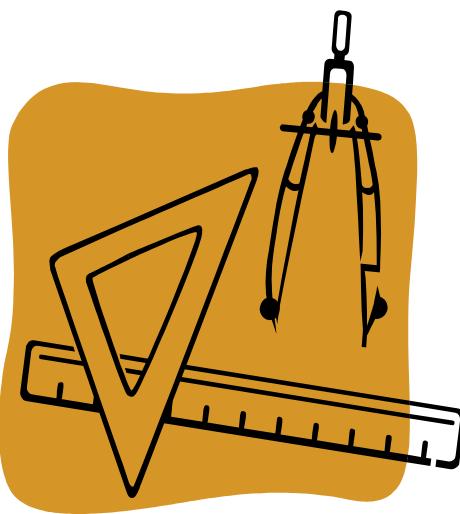
eSchool News - [AASA hears what's about to disrupt schools](#), February 23, 2009 - How much online learning for DoD? and [Podcast trumps lecture in one college study](#), March 06, 2009 – Yes, learning tools can be helpful.

THE COLLABORATOR - USSTRATCOM's Knowledge Transfer Newsletter, [March 3, 2009](#) - There is a blur between learning and knowledge transfer.

DoD's Updated E-Learning Standard

A recent Defense Department [news release](#) announced the 4th edition of the Web-based standard, known as the Advanced Distributed Learning (ADL) Sharable Content Object Reference Model (SCORM) 2004. This standard ensures the learning experience and performance data tracking are consistent in the training courses via the Internet and allows for online collaboration among users.

When properly used, SCORM will reduce training time and/or costs and encourage training organizations to reuse established content and reformat con-



tent for their specific needs. SCORM, which was developed within DOD in collaboration with partners from academia and industry, has become a governmental and commercial standard. The 4th edition of SCORM enhances its interoperability across learning management systems, adds additional improvements and corrects previous system defects.

More information on SCORM can be obtained at <http://www.adlnet.gov>.

DoD Instructional Systems Development (DoD ISD)

On March 10, 2009 the DoD ISD Community of Practice (CoP) held its first quarterly 2009 meeting at the DoD Civilian Personnel Management Service. The program included presentations on: Example CoPs; How to get started; and Envisioning the DoD ISD CoP in five years. The meeting used WebEx which allowed several of our more distant

members access to the program.

The next DoD ISD CoP meeting is scheduled for June 9, 2009, at the Defense Information School, Ft. Meade, MD. The March presentations, articles and discussion contributions, the proposed June agenda, and general civilian education articles will be posted on the

DAU Acquisition Community Connection (ACC) at: <https://acc.dau.mil/ISD>. If you have not visited the DoD ISD CoP, take some time to review and share your civilian education information and achievements.

Analyze
Design
Develop
Implement
Evaluate

Other Helpful Information

[49th annual Association for Institutional Research \(AIR\) Forum](#), May 30-June 3, Atlanta, Georgia

[CHEA Summer Workshop](#), June 26, 2009, Washington, D.C.

[Council on Occupational Education Summer Conference](#), July 9-10 Detroit,

MI.

The 2009 Department of Defense (DoD) Worldwide Human Resources (HR) Conference will be held on July 13 – 16, 2009 at the DoD Executive Training Center in Southbridge, Massachusetts, as announced on page five of

the [March CPMS Express](#).

Visit [Our Courts](#) for new Constitution Day and Citizenship Day resources.

The newsletter registration form for Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) is on the same page as their [Winter 2009 Newsletter](#).

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE



Civilian Education and Professional Development Branch

Civilian Personnel Management Service
1400 Key Blvd. Suite B-200
Arlington, VA 22209-5144

Phone: 703-696-8704
DSN: 426-8704
Fax: 703-588-1793

If you have any questions,
please email us at:

education@cpms.osd.mil or
call 703 696-8704.

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The DoD Civilian Education and Professional Development Newsletter is published by the Civilian Education and Professional Development Branch, in the Joint Leader Development Division of the Civilian Personnel Management Service. We produce the DoD CE&PD Newsletter for the DoD civilian education community.

Please share with colleagues interested in DoD educational issues.

Call for Helpful Information

If you want to submit helpful information please contact us at education@cpms.osd.mil.

Web Site:

http://www.cpms.osd.mil/jld/education_index.aspx