

DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

U.S. Department of Education Negotiated Rulemaking Accreditation Committee March 26 – 28, 2007

Welcome

Vickie Schray, Senior Advisor to the Under Secretary, welcomed negotiators to the second session of negotiated rulemaking. Sally Wanner, Program Attorney, Office of the General Counsel accompanied Ms. Schray at the table.

Petition for Membership

The facilitator announced the resignation of Stephen Reno as an alternate to Jim McCormick. Jim McCormick nominated Marshall Hill of Nebraska's Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education as his alternate. The committee accepted the nomination.

Review of the Agenda

The committee reviewed the agenda for this session. Three issues were removed from the committee's agenda.

- Issue #4 – Relationship of input and resource standards to student achievement
- Issue #5 – Standard definitions of terms related to student achievement
- Issue #11 – Scope of recognition

Discussion of the Meeting Summary

The negotiators caucused to discuss the February 21-23, 2—7 session draft meeting summary. They made a motion (included below), which was accepted. A revised meeting summary was developed and approved by the committee.

Caucus Motion

1. The Department of Education proposed draft meeting summary of the February 21-23, 2007 Negotiated Rulemaking Accreditation Committee provides a somewhat instructive but only partial summary of an extended and complex discussion. As such, it could not and does not reflect the full range of issues, concerns, or interests discussed at the February meeting, and could lead to misunderstanding and misinterpretation.
2. Hence, the 15 non-federal negotiators and alternates who participated in the Caucus (the Caucus) do not accept the Draft meeting Summary as a complete or accurate official summary.
3. The Caucus proposes that a revised summary be prepared consisting of pages 1-2 of the draft summary beginning with "Welcome" and ending with "Providing Information to the Public", and the "Public Comment" and "Next Meeting" paragraphs on page 9 as the summary of the February meeting.

4. The Caucus proposes the summary of this March 26-28, 2007 meeting include this motion.
5. The Caucus proposes that the revised summary be available for approval of the entire committee before the conclusion of the meeting on March 28, 2007.
6. The Caucus proposes future meeting summaries provide the same pattern of general high-level summary.

Discussion of Issues

The negotiators discussed the issues and the language proposed by the Department. The negotiators expressed concurrence or opposition to the proposed language. The Department requested negotiators to suggest alternative language if opposed to proposed language. The intent of the discussion was to build towards a tentative agreement on the issue.

- Issue #1 – Due Process
- Issue #2 – Substantive Change – tentative agreement
- Issue #3 – Monitoring
- Issue #6 – Quantitative standard for programs leading to gainful employment
- Issue #7 – Institutional success with respect to student achievement
- Issue #8 – Consideration of mission in application of standards – tentative agreement
- Issue #9 – Transfer of credit and acceptance of credentials
- Issue #10 – Direct assessment programs
- Issue #12 – Recognition procedures
- Issue #13 – Decision-making authority
- Issue #14 – Agency materials – record keeping and confidentiality
- Issue #15 – Providing information to the public

Next Meeting

The committee approved the motion to schedule three full days for the next session. The session is scheduled for April 24-26. The federal negotiator will provide the committee members with draft language, to the extent possible, at least seven days prior to the next meeting.