

COMMISSION ON REGULATION OF POSTSECONDARY DISTANCE EDUCATION

Commissioner, Observer and Advisor Biographies

COMMISSIONERS

Richard W. (Dick) Riley, Commission Chair
Former U. S. Secretary of Education
Former Governor of South Carolina

Richard W. Riley is a senior partner of Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP and its affiliate, EducationCounsel LLC. With offices in Washington, DC, and South Carolina, he counsels clients on business, governance, financial matters, government processes and education issues. Additionally, he works with partners to develop strategy in complex business and legal matters. With full support of the Firm, Dick Riley remains an ambassador for improving education at the local, state and national levels, as well as abroad.

Secretary Riley is advisory council chair of the Richard W. Riley Institute of Government, Politics and Public Leadership at his alma mater, Furman University, and is a distinguished professor of education at the University of South Carolina. The College of Education at Winthrop University bears his name, as does the College of Education and Leadership at Walden University.

The *Christian Science Monitor* has said that many Americans regard Secretary Riley as "one of the great statesmen of education in this (20th) century." During his tenure with the U.S. Department of Education, Secretary Riley helped launch historic initiatives to raise academic standards; improve instruction for the poor and disadvantaged; increase parental involvement in education; expand grants and loans to help more students attend college; and prepare young people in America for the world of work. As Governor of South Carolina, he initiated the Education Improvement Act, heralded by the Rand Corporation to be the "most comprehensive education reform measure in the United States."

A member of the South Carolina Bar and the American Bar Association, Secretary Riley earned a J.D. from the University of South Carolina School of Law and a B.A. in political science, *cum laude*, from Furman University. Secretary Riley is the recipient of numerous national and local awards from education and public service organizations all across the country, as well as honorary degrees from higher education institutions in the United States and abroad. In 2010 TIME Magazine named him one of the *Top 10 Best Cabinet Members* in our nation's history.

Meg Benke
Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs
SUNY-Empire State College

Dr. Meg Benke has been named (effective September 1) acting president of Empire State College, where she has worked since 1991. Her roles have focused on college-wide programs and on distance learning, building the college's Center for Distance Learning into one of the foremost and most innovative open and online systems in the United States. Under her 17-year involvement and leadership as dean, the Center has become the largest provider of online education in the state of New York and one of the largest programs in the country.

Dr. Benke has worked with Empire State College to build partnerships with unions, corporations, nonprofits and the military to promote college degrees and to increase access to a college education for employees.

In 2007, Meg was recognized for the Most Outstanding Achievement in Online Learning by an Individual by Sloan-C, a national consortium for distance learning providers. In 2010, she was selected for the inaugural class of Sloan-C Fellows. Her other awards include Outstanding Administrator from Ohio University, and Outstanding New Professional by the Ohio College Personnel Association. She has been actively involved in various ways with the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, and she has served as an external evaluator for many institutions and programs in higher learning.

Dr. Benke began her career at Ohio University and Antioch College. Her early work was dedicated to increasing access to higher education for adult learners through distance education, increasing employability of graduates and ensuring that the outcomes of an online education matched traditional education from a quality perspective. She consults nationally on how universities provide student services in online education programs, and she has served on a variety of national efforts to create standards for quality in online education. In the business area, Dr. Benke has done research on employability and on downsizing in organizations and the impact on mid-level employees.

Meg Benke holds a Ph.D. in student personnel from Ohio University and a B.S. in business from Youngstown State University. In the graduate and undergraduate programs of Empire State College, she teaches in the areas of human systems and behavior, performance measurement, learning organizations, organizational change and training and development.

Joseph A. Garcia
Lieutenant Governor of Colorado and
Executive Director, Colorado Department of Higher Education

Prior to his appointment by Governor John Hickenlooper in January 2011, Joseph Garcia was president of Colorado State University-Pueblo. While there, he helped the school overcome stagnant enrollment, a mediocre reputation and financial difficulties. Prior to that, Mr. Garcia was president of the second-largest community college in Colorado, Pike's Peak Community College, with three campuses that serve more than 16,000 students annually. Earlier he was appointed by Governor Roy Romer to be executive director of the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies.

Mr. Garcia has participated in community and nonprofit organizations throughout his professional career, where he learned the value of working with all stakeholders to reach a common ground. He and his wife became deeply involved in public education when their own children entered grade school in Colorado Springs. Mr. Garcia has served in roles as varied as PTO president to legal counsel for the District 11 School Board.

Born into a military family with deep roots in northern New Mexico, Mr. Garcia has lived in cities ranging from the western United States to Western Europe. He earned a business degree from the University of Colorado and a J.D. from Harvard Law School. He returned to Colorado because of its quality of life; he is an avid mountain biker and mountain climber in the summer and snowboarder in the winter, experiences he hopes to share with his children and grandchildren.

Jim Geringer
Former Governor of Wyoming
Director of Policy and Public Sector Strategies
Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI)

Jim Geringer is fond of saying that he is an engineer by education, farmer by choice and governor by accident.

He has a B.S. in mechanical engineering from Kansas State University that enabled 10 years active and 12 years reserve service in the US Air Force, working with unmanned space programs of the Air Force and NASA. He worked on the Global Positioning Satellite System, remote-sensing early detection/warning systems, the Interim Upper Stage for the Space Shuttle, the Mars Viking Lander, activation of the Peacekeeper missile system and disaster recovery from nuclear, biological and chemical warfare.

Upon leaving active duty, he signed on as contract administrator for the construction of a 1700-megawatt coal-fired electric power generation plant near Wheatland, Wyoming. Then he took up agricultural pursuits, along with serving in the Wyoming Legislature from 1983 to 1994, including six years each in the House and the Senate before being elected Governor.

During his two terms as Wyoming Governor, Jim focused on improving education through standards, accountability and technology; modernizing Wyoming's economic base to include technology more extensively; changing how natural resource agencies among state, federal and local governments worked together; establishing community-based health and family services programs; and implementing strategic planning and information systems. Governor Geringer was chairman of the Western Governors' Association and the Education Commission of the States. He also served on John Glenn's National Commission on Mathematics and Science Teaching for the 21st Century, the National Commission on Service Learning, and on the Goals 2000 Panel.

Jim joined Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) in the summer of 2003 as director of policy and public sector strategies to work with senior elected and corporate officials on how to use geospatial technology for place-based decisions in business and government. He also serves with a number of national education, science and policy entities, including Western Governors University, which he chairs.

Rufus Glasper
Chancellor
Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD), Arizona

In 2003, Dr. Glasper was appointed to his current position by the District's five-member, elected governing board. Prior to his appointment, he held administrative and executive positions with the District for 25 years, beginning as director of finance on up to executive vice chancellor for human resources and administration. In addition to his administrative duties, he has been an adjunct professor in the graduate school of education at Arizona State University for 12 years.

Comprised of ten colleges, MCCCD is one of the nation's largest multi-college community college systems. Chancellor Glasper provides direct supervision for the District's ten college presidents and five vice chancellors. He articulates "inclusiveness, engagement and respect" as guiding principles of his administration and he has aligned those with an emphasis on student success and public stewardship, two goals on which he expects all of the District's employees to be focused. He recently has expressed his vision for "ONE Maricopa" – a single collaborative organization made up of ten colleges, rather than ten separate colleges that make up the District.

As both a certified public accountant and a certified government financial manager, Chancellor Glasper's financial expertise and commitment to sound business practices have resulted in all three national bond agencies awarding MCCCD an AAA bond rating for four of the past five years.

Dr. Glasper has served education in Arizona and the nation beyond his role as Chancellor. In 2005, then-Governor Janet Napolitano asked him to co-chair with her the Governor's P-20 Council, charged with increasing Arizona's high school graduation rate, success in college and preparation for the modern workforce. He currently serves as co-chair of the "Getting AHEAD" Initiative, a comprehensive initiative by Arizona's education institutions, business community and state government to reshape the state's postsecondary education system and enable more residents to attain a college degree. He serves on the national Commission on Higher Education Attainment, convened by the six presidential-level higher education national associations to assess the need for improved college retention and attainment and to chart a course for improvement.

Dr. Glasper holds a Bachelor's degree in business administration from Luther College (Decorah, Iowa), a Master's in school business administration from Northern Illinois University, and a Ph. D. in higher education finance from the University of Arizona. He is the recipient of an Honorary Doctorate in political science from Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, as well as numerous awards for his effective leadership and contributions to society.

Terry W. Hartle
Senior Vice President, Division of Government and Public Affairs
American Council on Education (ACE)

For almost 20 years, Terry Hartle has directed ACE's comprehensive effort to engage federal policymakers on a broad range of issues, including student aid, scientific research, government regulation, and tax policy. Increasingly, this has included work on state and local issues of national impact.

Given ACE's historic role in coordinating the government relations efforts of some 60 associations in the Washington-based higher education community, Hartle is widely considered American higher education's most visible lobbyist. He also oversees Higher Education for Development (HED), which supports the global development goals of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), primarily by coordinating the engagement of the higher education community to address development challenges.

Prior to joining ACE in 1993, Hartle served for six years as education staff director for the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources, then chaired by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy. Prior to 1987, Hartle was director of social policy studies and resident fellow at the American Enterprise Institute and a research scientist at the Educational Testing Service. Hartle is quoted widely in both the national and international media on higher education issues, has authored or co-authored numerous articles, books, and national studies and contributes regular book reviews to *The Christian Science Monitor*.

Hartle received a Doctorate in public policy from The George Washington University in 1982, a Master's in public administration from the Maxwell School at Syracuse University in 1974, and a Bachelor's degree in history (*summa cum laude*) from Hiram College in 1973. He was awarded an honorary doctor of laws degree by Northeastern University in 1994. He is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, the Garfield Society at Hiram College, and the Hiram College Athletic Hall of Fame.

Marshall Hill

Executive Director

Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education

Marshall Hill earned a B.A. and an M.A. in music from Utah State University in 1968 and 1969, respectively, followed in 1972 by a Ph.D. in music education, with a minor in higher education, from Florida State University.

Dr. Hill began his duties as executive director of Nebraska's Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education in February, 2005. Prior to that, Hill held the position of assistant commissioner for universities and health-related institutions for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in Austin. He previously had served as the board's acting assistant commissioner for health affairs, universities division program director and associate program director. During his time with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Hill led the way in Texas' funding of telecommunications and distance learning. He also chaired SHEEO panels on the new economy and workforce development and use of technology in instruction.

A faculty member for 17 years, Hill was an associate or assistant professor of music at five institutions, including the University of Southern Mississippi, Iowa State University, and Utah State University. He also has experience in the private business sector.

He has served on three U.S. Department of Education panels charged with negotiating new rules affecting accreditation and student financial aid.

Arthur Kirk, Jr.
President
Saint Leo University, Florida

Since becoming president of Saint Leo University in January 1997, Arthur Kirk's vision – i.e., for Saint Leo to become a leading Catholic teaching university – has guided the efforts of its faculty and staff. Enrollments have doubled and graduation rates have improved significantly. The physical plant has grown or been extensively renovated and refurbished, the curriculum is more academically rigorous, eight intercollegiate athletic teams have been added and improvements have been demonstrated in student satisfaction, graduation rates, learning outcomes, and student engagement. During Dr. Kirk's tenure, all campus residential students are issued laptop computers, and new technologies are employed online and at all teaching locations.

Dr. Kirk received his Bachelor's degree in history and his Master's degree in administration and supervision from Kean University in New Jersey. Writing his dissertation on small college survival strategies, he earned his Doctorate from Rutgers University. He began his administrative career at Kean University where he served as assistant director of the division of college development and director of alumni affairs. He also served as director of development and planning for Raritan Valley Community College and directed the college's off-campus, non-credit and curriculum development programs. Dr. Kirk moved on to be executive vice president and chief financial officer of Misericordia University in northeastern Pennsylvania. In 1984 he was named president of Keuka College in upstate New York.

Dr. Kirk has received honors and awards from Rutgers University, Kean University, and Keuka College. He is a board member of the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning, the Association of Governing Boards Council of Presidents, and the Committee on Accountability of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities. He is past chair of the president's council of the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida, past vice president of the Florida Association of Colleges and Universities Board of Directors, and he currently serves on several corporate and community boards. Dr. Kirk served two terms as vice chair of the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II President's Council and the NCAA Executive Committee. An avid athlete and former college football coach, he competes in triathlons and in 1995 completed a cross-country bike ride.

Paul E. Lingenfelter
President
State Higher Education Executives Organization (SHEEO)

As President of SHEEO, Paul's work has focused on increasing successful participation in higher education; accountability for improving learning; finance; and building more effective relationships between K-12 and postsecondary educators. Under his leadership, SHEEO organized the National Commission on Accountability in Higher Education; created the annual study *State Higher Education Finance*; published *More Student Success: A Systemic Solution*; and substantially expanded SHEEO collaborations with the Council of Chief State School Officers.

From 1985 to 2000, Paul served at the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, where in 1996 he was appointed vice president to establish and lead the MacArthur Foundation Program on Human and Community Development. Earlier, he was involved in the full range of the foundation's

international and domestic programs as associate vice president for planning and evaluation and director of program-related investments.

Dr. Lingenfelter was deputy director for fiscal affairs for the Illinois Board of Higher Education from 1980 to 1985 and held other administrative positions with the Illinois Board of Higher Education and the University of Michigan from 1968-80. His education background includes an A.B. in literature from Wheaton College, an M.A. from Michigan State University, and a Ph.D. in higher education, with an emphasis in public policy, from the University of Michigan. He is the author of numerous studies and articles on higher education and philanthropy, and he currently serves on the boards of the National Student Clearinghouse and the New Leadership Alliance for Student Learning and Accountability.

Sylvia Manning

President

Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association

Since being appointed to her current position in 2008, Dr. Manning's vision has been to strengthen participation of the commission's institutional leaders in helping to create the voice of the commission on issues of state, regional, and national importance. She is committed to keeping accreditation timely, relevant, and accountable for members of the public and, most importantly, for the students served by HLC-accredited institutions. Her commitment to student learning and to excellence is clear, direct, and authentic. She strives to continue the commission's commitment to academic and service quality improvement and to peer review.

Dr. Manning previously served the University of Illinois for almost 14 years, the last eight as chancellor of the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC). Prior to joining the University of Illinois in 1994 as vice president of academic affairs, Dr. Manning served in a number of faculty and senior leadership roles at the University of Southern California and California State University, Hayward.

Dr. Manning has a Ph.D. and an M.A. in English language and literature from Yale University and a B.A. in English from McGill University. Her scholarly work has focused on British literature of the Victorian era.

M. Peter McPherson

President

Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (A*P*L*U)

Prior to joining A·P·L·U – an association comprised of public research universities, land-grant institutions and many state public university systems – Peter McPherson was president of Michigan State University for more than 11 years (1993-2004). From April to October 2003, he took leave from that position and served as the Director of Economic Policy for the Coalition Provisional Authority of Iraq, where he worked with the currency, the Central Bank, the Ministry of Finance and the banks of that country.

Before Michigan State, McPherson held senior executive positions with Bank of America and, from 1987-1989, he served as deputy secretary of the U.S. Treasury. He was administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development from 1981 to 1987 and in that role was responsible for the U. S. effort for famine relief in Africa in 1984-85. During that time, he chaired the board of the Overseas Private

Investment Corporation. From 1977 through 1980, he practiced law and, prior to that, he was a special assistant to President Gerald Ford in the White House.

Peter is the founding co-chair of the Partnership to Cut Hunger and Poverty in Africa, and chairman of the board of Harvest Plus, an organization working on breeding crops for better nutrition.

Peter McPherson has been honored with the U. S. Presidential Certificate of Outstanding Achievement, the Secretary of State's Distinguished Leadership Award, the Department of Treasury's Alexander Hamilton Award, the UNICEF award for "outstanding contribution to child survival," the 1983 Humanitarian of the Year award from the American Lebanese League and the Jewish National Fund Tree of Life Award in 1998. He received a B.A. from Michigan State University, an M.B.A. from Western Michigan University and a J.D. from American University.

Bobby D. Moser
Vice President and Dean, Agricultural Administration
The Ohio State University
Chair, American Distance Education Consortium

The longest-tenured dean at The Ohio State University, Bobby Moser recently announced his retirement as soon as a successor can be found. He became vice president for university outreach in 2001, having served as chair of the President's Council for Outreach and Engagement and the Outreach and Engagement Steering Committee, forerunners of the Office of University Outreach and Engagement.

As vice president for agricultural administration and dean of the College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences since 1991, Bobby Moser heads the college's academic programs, Ohio State University Extension, the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center and the Agricultural Technical Institute in Wooster. Under his leadership, the college received a W.K. Kellogg grant to realign itself for the 21st century. Before that, he served as director of Ohio State University Extension beginning in 1988, following a number of years at the University of Missouri and the University of Nebraska, as a 4-H agent in Kansas and as a livestock buyer for an Oklahoma food company.

Bobby Moser was inducted into the International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame in 2005, in recognition of his effective leadership of one of the largest adult continuing education and extension programs in the nation. He has developed education collaborations with Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa and Asia and has received regional and national outstanding college teaching awards. He initiated the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (now A*P*L*U) task force for Globalizing Agricultural Science and Education Programs for America (GASEPA).

Bobby also was the founding leader, board director and now chairman of what has become the American Distance Education Consortium, which is composed of about 65 state universities and land-grant colleges to promote the creation and provision, by the land-grant community of colleges and universities, of high-quality, economical distance education programs and services to diverse audiences.

Bobby Moser earned his Bachelor's, Master's and Ph. D. degrees in animal science and animal nutrition from Oklahoma State University and the University of Nebraska.

Robert "Tad" Perry
South Dakota House of Representatives

Tad Perry grew up in a rural community in Missouri, close to the Missouri River. Years later, he returned to those Missouri River roots, this time in South Dakota, as he culminated a professional career in education by working, living and retiring in the Pierre/Fort Pierre area.

Tad graduated from Central Methodist University in Fayette, MO, and received graduate degrees in political science from the University of Missouri at Columbia. He worked as a university faculty member and administrator for 43 years, first at Indiana's Ball State University and then as the chief executive officer for the South Dakota public university system, one of only 50 such jobs in the country. As he retired from service to the South Dakota Board of Regents in 2009, the six public universities in South Dakota were serving a record number of students, setting new records for research awards and expenditures, and achieving record-breaking levels of fundraising that approached \$500 million.

Tad has a 31-year record of service as an effective advocate in state government, and he spent 15 years working in the South Dakota legislative process before his election in 2010 to the state House of Representatives. In his first term, Rep. Perry has been appointed to serve on the education, taxation, and retirement laws committees. He is also alternate commissioner for the House of Representatives to the Midwestern Higher Education Compact.

To keep young people in South Dakota, Tad Perry seeks to shape current and long-term public policy that will build a future workforce and grow the state's economy, while providing the resources and services required to meet citizens' needs. Above all, he believes education is the key to our future.

George Peterson
Executive Director Emeritus
Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, Inc. (ABET)

From 1994-2009, George Peterson led the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, Inc. (ABET), which sets standards for education at the nation's engineering schools. Upon his retirement as Executive Director, he became ABET's Managing Director for International Business Development.

Dr. Peterson is a North Carolina A&T alum, electrical engineer, and holder of two Black Engineer of the Year Awards – for Promotion of Higher Education in 1999 and the BEYA Alumni Association Award in 2004. He received ABET's Distinguished Service Award in 2009.

Prior to his ABET service, Dr. Peterson was assistant vice president for academic affairs and professor of electrical engineering at Morgan State University. Before that, he taught electrical engineering at the U.S. Naval Academy, chairing the department from 1983 to 1988. Dr. Peterson also worked at the National Science Foundation as section head of faculty and teacher development in the division of undergraduate education and as program director in the division of undergraduate science, engineering and mathematics education.

Jim Petro
Chancellor
Ohio Board of Regents

Appointed to his leadership position in March 2011, Chancellor Petro leads the University System of Ohio, which is one of the largest comprehensive systems of public higher education in the nation. The University System of Ohio bears the primary responsibility for raising Ohioans' educational attainment.

Petro has previously served as Attorney General of Ohio and as Ohio Auditor of State. Prior to being elected to statewide office, Jim served as a state representative, Cuyahoga County Commissioner, and Rocky River City Councilman and Director of Law. He also engaged in the private practice of law for more than 20 years and was recognized as an Ohio Super Lawyer and a 30-year AV-rated lawyer from Martindale & Hubbell.

Petro received his law degree from Case Western Reserve University and a Bachelor's degree in history from Denison University.

Michael Plater
President
Strayer University

Dr. Michael Plater, formerly provost and chief academic officer, was appointed in 2011 to serve as Strayer University's interim president. Prior to joining Strayer University, he served as dean of the college of arts and sciences at North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University. In this role, he oversaw academic programs and faculty serving more than 3,000 students. Previously, he was associate dean for the Graduate School at Brown University and a professor of business at the University of Florida. He holds a Doctorate from the College of William and Mary, a Master's in business administration from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School and a Bachelor's degree in economics from Harvard University.

Pamela K. Quinn
Provost, LeCroy Center for Educational Telecommunications
Dallas County Community College District, Texas

As CEO of the LeCroy Center since 1985, Pam Quinn has become an internationally recognized leader in the field of distance education and learning technologies. She headed up the team to create the DCCCD's virtual campus, Dallas TeleCollege Online, and led the unit called Dallas TeleLearning to become a leader in the production and marketing of high- quality distance learning courseware.

Pam was a key leader in the creation of STARLink, the State of Texas Academic Resource Link professional development technology-based network, and the Virtual College of Texas, a consortium for the Texas Association of Community Colleges. She has served on numerous boards and has chaired the Instructional Technology Council and the National University Technology Network.

Pam earned her B.S. degree from the University of Kansas and her M.S. from Texas A&M-Commerce.

George E. Ross
President
Central Michigan University

Dr. Ross leads one of the nation's 100 largest public universities and the fourth largest in Michigan. Prior to assuming the CMU presidency in 2010, he had gained 24 years of higher education leadership and management experience. He served as president of Alcorn State University, founded in 1871 as the nation's first public historically Black land-grant university; he held the positions of vice president for finance and administrative services at Central Michigan University; executive vice president at Clark Atlanta University; executive vice chancellor at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga; and vice president for business affairs at Tuskegee University.

Dr. Ross' focus on student success is reflected in his continued engagement in traditional and nontraditional student teaching and learning. He has held adjunct and associate professor ranks, teaching at the undergraduate and graduate levels. He also has developed continuing education materials and taught professional development courses for various professional organizations. As a nationally-recognized leader in higher education, Dr. Ross has presented seminars, workshops and lectures in the areas of higher education leadership, budget, finance and administration to a number of universities and national organizations.

As a strong proponent of civic engagement and giving back to his community, Dr. Ross has served on a number of local, statewide and regional planning and economic development boards, countywide strategic planning committees, neighborhood development organizations, and chambers of commerce. In addition, he has served on the board of trustees of Bryan College and the board of directors of the Southern Association of College and University Business Officers.

A certified public accountant, Dr. Ross held positions in corporate and nonprofit finance and management prior to his work in higher education. He earned his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in business administration from Michigan State University, a Ph.D. in higher education administration from the University of Alabama, and completed postdoctoral studies at Harvard University.

Paul H. Shiffman
Executive Director, Presidents' Forum
Excelsior College

Dr. Shiffman leads the Presidents' Forum, a policy institute established in 2004 and hosted by Excelsior College. With a national membership that consists of higher education leadership, the Presidents' Forum focuses on policy, regulatory, and fiscal issues associated with adult-serving and distance-learning institutions. It advances the recognition of innovative practice and excellence in online learning by providing a venue to share knowledge and best practices.

In his role as assistant vice president for strategic and government relations for Excelsior College, Paul focuses on advocacy for and delivery of online learning and adult distance education. Prior to joining Excelsior College, Paul served in a variety of administrative roles in academia and public service, including vice president for institutional planning and advancement at SUNY Rockland Community College; executive associate to the president and assistant vice president for government relations at SUNY Empire State College; executive associate to the vice chancellor for educational technology of the

SUNY System; coordinator of legislative and education policy for the National Education Association of New York; executive director of the Standing Committee on Education of the New York State Assembly; and education planner for early childhood through secondary education in the Office of Planning and Budget for the Governor of the State of Georgia. He has held faculty teaching appointments at Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital in Philadelphia, Temple University, North Georgia College, Georgia State University, The College of Saint Rose, and SUNY Empire State College.

Dr. Shiffman earned a B.A. in psychology from Fairleigh Dickinson University, a Master's in education administration from Georgia State University and a Doctorate in educational psychology-classroom.

Ronald L. Taylor
Senior Advisor, Retired CEO
DeVry Inc.

Ron Taylor is the co-founder and retired Chief Executive Officer of DeVry Inc. He has served on the board of directors of DeVry Inc. and its predecessor company since 1973. He was the company's chief operating officer from 1973 until 2002, when he became co-CEO, and was subsequently appointed CEO in 2004. He retired as CEO in November 2006 and became senior advisor to the company.

Taylor earned his Master's degree in business administration from Stanford University in 1971 and graduated, *cum laude*, with a Bachelor's degree from Harvard University in 1966. Following graduation, he was drafted into the U. S. Army, where he served on active duty from 1966-69, including a year in Vietnam. Taylor also served as state chair of the U.S. Department of Defense Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, for which he was awarded the Department of Defense Distinguished Service Medal.

Taylor is a member of the board of trustees of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools; is an active team chair, peer reviewer and committee member for the Higher Learning Commission of the NCACCS; and served as a board trustee of the Higher Learning Commission. He was a founding member of the Stanford University Graduate School of Business Management Board and served on the Hanson Center Community Advisory Board.

Taylor was an eight-year elected member, finance committee chairman and president of the school board for Elementary School District 181 in Hinsdale, Illinois. He currently serves on the board of directors of DeVry Inc., American Education Group, Inc. and the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago.

Belle S. Wheelan
President
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)

Belle Wheelan is the first African American and the first woman to serve as president of the SACSCOC . Her career spans 37 years and includes the roles of faculty member, chief student services officer, campus provost, college president and state secretary of education. In several of those roles, she was the first African American and/or woman to be selected to serve.

Dr. Wheelan received her Bachelor's degree from Trinity University in Texas (1972) with a double major in psychology and sociology; her Master's from Louisiana State University (1974) in developmental educational psychology; and her Doctorate from the University of Texas at Austin (1984) in educational administration, with a special concentration in community college leadership.

She has received numerous awards and recognitions, including four honorary degrees; the Distinguished Graduate Award from Trinity University (2002) and from the College of Education at the University of Texas at Austin (1992); *Washingtonian Magazine's* 100 Most Powerful Women in Washington, DC (2001); and the AAUW Woman of Distinction Award (2002).

She holds and has held membership in numerous local, state and national organizations, including Rotary International; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.; American College Testing, Inc., board of directors; American Association of Community Colleges' board of directors; and the President's Round Table of the National Council on Black American Affairs.

OBSERVERS

Julie Davis Bell
Education Group Director
National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)

Julie has been with NCSL for 21 years and has directed the Education Program for 19 years. In that capacity, she oversees the education program staff and is responsible for setting program priorities, responding to constituent needs and requests, developing new education projects, and interfacing with other national education policy organizations. She also serves as the program policy specialist for higher education issues.

Julie received her Ph.D. in political science from the University of California at Davis in 1986. Prior to joining NCSL, she was a policy associate with the Center for Policy Research in Denver and taught political science courses at the University of Colorado.

Bruce Chaloux
Executive Director and CEO
Sloan Consortium

The Sloan Consortium is a nonprofit institutional and professional leadership organization dedicated to integrating online education into the mainstream of higher education, helping institutions and individual educators improve the quality, scale, and breadth of online education. Prior to assuming his current leadership of Sloan-C, of which he also is a past president, Bruce directed the 16-state Electronic Campus initiative of the Southern Regional Education Board. Widely known as the South's "electronic marketplace" for distance education courses and programs, the Electronic Campus has grown to include more than 10,000 credit courses and 500 degree programs from more than 300 colleges and universities in the region.

Earlier, Bruce served in the Graduate School at Virginia Tech for 13 years, including four years as associate dean for extended campus programs at the institution's main campus in Blacksburg and nine years as associate dean and director of Tech's Northern Virginia Graduate Campus in suburban Washington, DC. Before that, he held positions on the staff of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia and as an academic affairs administrator and faculty member at Castleton State College in Vermont.

Dr. Chaloux earned his Ph.D. in higher education administration from Florida State University in 1979 and has business degrees from the University of Florida (Master's in 1972) and Castleton State College.

Kay Gilcher
Director, Accreditation Group
Office of Postsecondary Education
U. S. Department of Education

In her current capacity, Kay oversees the review processes for Secretarial recognition of accrediting agencies and for determinations of comparability of the standards used by foreign countries to accredit medical schools to standards used to accredit medical schools in the United States. Previously, she was a member of the postsecondary education policy staff, where she was responsible for issues related to distance and non-traditional education and accreditation. From 2000 through 2006, Kay led the Distance Education Demonstration Program, which was established by Congress to inform legislation governing the availability of federal aid for students in distance education programs.

Before joining the federal government, Kay spent 14 years at the University of Maryland University College where she served in many positions associated with the design and delivery of distance education programs. Her last position at UMUC was as assistant vice president and director, Center for the Virtual University. Prior to coming to Maryland, she was a director of career planning and placement at Cornell University.

Frank Mayadas
Senior Advisor
Alfred P. Sloan Foundation

Since 2010, Frank Mayadas has been advising the foundation on its continuing grants in the Anytime, Anyplace Learning Program. From 1992 to 2009, he served as a program director at the foundation, helping craft its grant-making strategy in online learning, globalization, industry studies, and career choice in technical fields.

Prior to coming to the Sloan Foundation, Frank spent 27 years at the IBM Corporation in a variety of technical, research, technology and management leadership positions. He has more than 35 published papers in systems, devices, and solid-state physics, and he holds several patents and awards from IBM. He is a fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, a member of the American Physical Society, and a past director of the Society of Engineering Science. He has served as a member of the national advisory board for Georgia Tech, and the advisory board of the College of Engineering,

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He currently is a member of the advisory board for the College of Engineering, University of Florida.

Dr. Mayadas received a Ph.D. in applied physics from Cornell in 1965 and a B.S. from the Colorado School of Mines in 1961.

Bob Moran

Director of Federal Relations

American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU)

In his current role since 2009, Bob Moran spearheads efforts focused on advocating AASCU's federal policy positions with Capitol Hill, the Administration, and the Washington higher education community. He also is responsible for analyzing budget, authorizing and appropriations legislation as it relates to higher education policy. In addition, he updates association members with key information in order to allow them to engage productively in the public policy debate.

Moran possesses a wealth of knowledge and experience in higher education policy. Prior to his current position, he served as the policy analyst on affordability issues for the Under Secretary at the U.S. Department of Education. In that role, Moran developed and promoted Administration policy centered on Title IV and student aid issues. Specifically, he was involved with the loan purchase programs implemented under the Ensuring Continued Access to Student Loan Act, the lender-of-last-resort program (especially as it relates to federal advances), the federal regulations around inducements, and simplification of the federal aid system.

In addition, Moran has 12 years of Capitol Hill experience, including staffing a Representative appointed to the Conference Committee that finalized the 1998 reauthorization of the Higher Education Act. He also has first-hand knowledge of the rules and procedures of the House and Senate, as well as the ever-confusing budget and appropriations processes.

Bob holds a B.S. degree in Mathematics and Political Science from Dickinson College.

Travis Reindl

Program Director, Education Division,

National Governors Association (NGA)

With oversight responsibility for the NGA Education Division's postsecondary education work area, Travis' concentration is on postsecondary access and completion. He also leads the NGA Initiative, *Complete to Compete*, which focuses on increasing college completion and productivity.

Travis has held leadership positions with CommunicationWorks, L.L.C.; Jobs for the Future, where he led *Making Opportunity Affordable*; American Association of State Colleges and Universities, doing state policy analysis; and the South Dakota Board of Regents, overseeing government relations and institutional research. Travis earned a B.A. from the University of Notre Dame and an M.P.P. from the University of Maryland-College Park.

ADVISORS

Saba Bireda
Policy and Legal Advisor
EducationCounsel LLC

Ms. Bireda is an expert in civil rights and education policy. Before joining EducationCounsel at the beginning of 2012, Saba was deputy director of the Poverty & Race Research Action Council. Prior to that, she was an education policy analyst at the Center for American Progress. Earlier, she was a litigation associate at a law firm and a staff attorney with the Education Law Center in Philadelphia.

Saba is a graduate of Harvard Law School and Stanford University, and she worked for two years for Teach for America in the D.C. public schools.

Art Coleman
Co-founder and Co-Managing Partner
EducationCounsel LLC

With extensive background in providing legal, policy, strategic planning, and advocacy services to educators throughout the country, Art Coleman addresses issues of access, accountability and completion in elementary, secondary and postsecondary education.

Art served for several years as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights and senior policy advisor to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Education. His responsibility for the development of federal civil rights policy in education and enforcement of relevant federal laws centered on issues relating to standards reform, test use, students with disabilities, English language learners, affirmative action, desegregation, sexual and racial harassment, and gender equity in athletics.

Mr. Coleman is a 1984 honors graduate of Duke University School of Law and a 1981 Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Virginia. He has testified before Congress and Executive agencies; he has been an adjunct professor at two law schools and at one graduate school of education; he has spoken widely and published extensively regarding legal and policy issues in education. Art currently chairs the Institute for Higher Education Policy. He also is a member of the National Association of College and University Attorneys and the National School Boards Association Council of School Attorneys.

Art calls himself a "recovering litigator," having gotten his start as a lawyer (1984-1993) with Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough, the law firm where he co-founded and affiliated EducationCounsel.

Sang Han
Director, Congressional and Governmental Affairs
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (A*P*L*U)

The Office of Congressional and Governmental Affairs oversees A*P*L*U's federal activities and policies on several different fronts, including, among others, higher education and student aid, as well as scientific research. Sang is responsible for representing the association in its interactions with the

federal government and other outside organizations and entities, in addition to working with the organization's member campuses.

Prior to joining A·P·L·U in 1999, Sang Han served as legislative assistant at the Association of American Universities (AAU) and is a graduate of two A·P·L·U institutions, University of California-Berkeley and University of Michigan.

Charles S. Lenth
Vice President for Policy Analysis and Academic Affairs
State Higher Education Executives Organization (SHEEO)

Charlie Lenth joined SHEEO in his current position in July, 2003. His focus is on state academic planning and policy, access and affordability in postsecondary education, governance and coordination, and other state roles and policy needs.

Prior to this position, Charlie worked from 1993-99 as the division director for higher education of the Education Commission of the States. From 1988-93, Charlie was the director for research at SHEEO, and he served as a senior program director for WICHE from 1984-88. Prior to these Colorado appointments, Charlie worked at the Illinois Board of Higher Education as the associate director for fiscal affairs and policy studies.

Charlie holds a Ph.D. in political science, an M.A. in social sciences, both from The University of Chicago, and an A.B. in government from Dartmouth College.

Sandy Rinck
Senior Policy Advisor
EducationCounsel LLC and Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP

Sandy Rinck serves as special advisor to former U. S. Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley, as well as policy advisor with EducationCounsel and the government relations team of the law firm. She was educated at the University of Maryland and has decades of experience in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. On Capitol Hill, she worked in the offices of several members of Congress, where she served in many staff leadership positions. Her private-sector experience includes lobbying Congress on a variety of issues on behalf of clients of a professional corporation. In the nonprofit sector, she worked for an association that advocated for federal legislation and regulation that served the interests of its membership and the public.

Sandy returned to government as special assistant to the U.S. Secretary of Education. During that time, she worked on the whole gamut of education issues coming before Secretary Riley, as well as Congressional affairs and internal Education Department matters. Since the end of the Clinton Administration, she has represented Secretary Riley on public education matters in Washington, D.C., and elsewhere throughout the country. During all of her career, she has maintained strong professional connections throughout the Legislative and Executive branches of government, as well as in school systems, colleges and universities, unions, associations, foundations, nonprofit organizations and other entities. She works collaboratively and effectively with those contacts to promote public-nonprofit-private partnerships for clients and to improve public education for all of our nation's students.

SARAH RITTLING
Senior Policy and Legal Advisor
EducationCounsel LLC

In her current position, Sarah provides counsel to clients on education policy matters related to workforce development, early childhood education, elementary and secondary education, higher education, and life-long learning.

Ms. Rittling is a former counsel to Senator Lamar Alexander, a ranking member of the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP), where she advised on education policy and judiciary issues and was responsible for developing comprehensive agendas in education at all levels and in workforce development.

Prior to that, Sarah was counsel for education and labor for U.S. Rep. Michael N. Castle, a ranking member of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce. She also held responsibility for matters before the Subcommittee on Education Reform, including reauthorization of the National School Lunch and Child Nutrition Act, the Vocational and Technical Education Act, and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Ms. Rittling also has served as a legislative assistant and deputy press secretary to U.S. Rep. Christopher Shays.

Sarah earned a B.A., *cum laude*, from the Maxwell School of Citizenship at Syracuse University, where she captained the NCAA Division I Women's Cross Country team. She gained her J.D. in 1999 from Syracuse University College of Law. Following graduation from law school, Sarah served as a law clerk in the Wicomico County (MD) Circuit Court.