



Summer Summary 2018

The summer of 2018 has flown by and now many are preparing for the start of the Fall 2018 semester. With that in mind I thought it best to provide a quick summary of some recent ABFSE activities and upcoming events.

Since the April 2018 Annual Meeting in Anaheim:

- JURA and Self studies.

Three schools completed their Self Study using the new JURA platform and had their site visits. Four additional programs have submitted their JURA Self studies (or are close to completion).

- Review of Standards.

Reminder the call for final comments on the revision of the ABFSE Accreditation Standards is under way. The survey can be accessed via the ABFSE website or via this link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NTWJT9C> . Please participate and encourage faculty, students and practitioners to do the same. Deadline is September 1, 2018.

- Program Committee.

Your ABFSE Program Committee has worked diligently to review comments from the 2018 Annual Conference and is planning for the 2019 sessions. If you have recommendations for speakers or sessions that were not shared via the Survey, please notify a member of the Program Committee (listed in ABFSE Directory) ASAP.

- Annual Report.

Remember that the 2018 Annual Report will require data about your New Enrollees. Will you plan to collect the necessary data from students when they start classes for fall?

The 2018 Annual Report will include more questions about Distance Learning.

How much DL is offered? (e.g. complete program, less than 50%, single courses, web-enhanced instruction, hybrid, gen ed only, etc.)

- ABFSE Directory.

The 2018-19 Directory of Accredited Programs is now available on the ABFSE website.

<http://www.abfse.org/docs/ABFSEDirectory.pdf>

- Faculty Database.

Expect the new ABFSE Faculty database to roll out before the end of the year. The availability of the database will facilitate communication between ABFSE and faculty teaching various disciplines within the accredited programs.

- ABFSE website.

Plans are under way to add a page to the website which will designate the programs offering a baccalaureate degree for funeral service (similar to what appears for Distance Learning).

- Curriculum Review.

Last week, twenty educators and practitioners met in Florida prior to the NFDMA Convention for the annual curriculum review. The teaching outlines for Funeral Service Psychology and Counseling, Small Business Management and Funeral Service Law underwent review.

The recommendations of those committees will be distributed for your comments twice. Those comments received by October 1 will be reviewed by the Curriculum Committee at their Fall meeting. The final recommendations for curriculum update will be circulated for comments again, before presentation for approval at the April 2019 ABFSE Annual Meeting.

- Deadlines.

Deadline for ABFSE scholarship applications is September 1. ABFSE Scholarship info is available at <http://www.abfse.org/html/scholarships.html> and applications are submitted on-line.

The Conference designated a September 3 deadline for the NBE scholarship program. Details are available at <https://theconferenceonline.org/scholarship/>.

- ABFSE and CHEA.

ABFSE is an accreditor recognized by CHEA, Council for Higher Education Accreditation. We were reviewed by CHEA in June 2018. To meet CHEA requirements, our Directory is expected to have a link to each accredited program's webpage. Efforts were made to verify the link before publication of the 2018-19 ABFSE Directory of Accredited Programs.

CHEA prefers that the info in our Directory also appear on the program website (NBE pass rates, grad rates and job placement rates). If that is not possible, a link to the ABFSE Directory is the second alternative. Please check the links periodically to verify that they are active.

- ABFSE fall meeting.

ABFSE fall meetings will be October 11-13, 2018 in Salt Lake City, UT. COA meets October 11 and 12. Committee meetings and Self Study Workshop are planned for October 13. Hotel reservations should be made via the NFDA website.

Please notify the ABFSE office if you plan to attend the Self Study workshop.

If there is sufficient demand, a site visitor workshop will be scheduled. Please notify the office ASAP, if you would like to participate.

New for 2018, ABFSE will have a booth at the NFDA Convention (instead of separate UMSEA and NACMS booths). If you are attending the NFDA Convention and can spare some time to staff the booth, please notify the ABFSE office. If you send a small supply of business cards to the office we will distribute them via the booth as needed.

- Support.

Please take note of the ABFSE Scholarship supporters (listed on the ABFSE website) and the exhibitors who supported the ABFSE Annual Conference. Please thank them whenever you have the opportunity.

Best wishes for a great start to the Fall 2018 semester.