

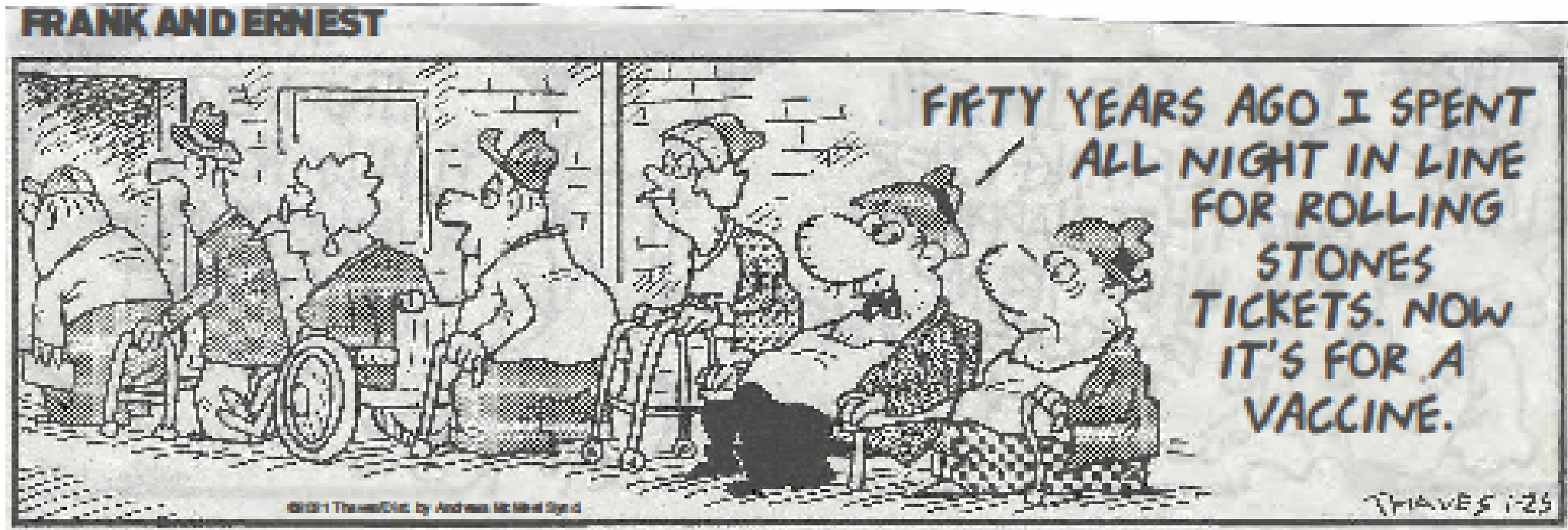
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

April 23, 2021

Coping



COPING COMES IN MANY FORMS



OVERVIEW

Update

USDE / CHEA

Annual Report & excerpts

Distance Education

Frequently asked questions
(1 is about NBE)

Weave

Virtual site visits

Appendix J & K

Announcements

Summary

NAMES / ACRONYMS

USDE - US Department of Education

NACIQI – National Advisory
Committee for Institutional Quality
and Integrity

CHEA - Council of Higher Education
Accreditation

Gatekeeper

Weave

UPDATE

56 completed Annual Report in 2020;
53 currently accredited

programs closed

2 in 2020

2 in 2019

2 Initial Accreditation approved at April COA meeting

2 programs in Candidacy applications
(2-4 more expected in next 12 months)

SCOPE OF RECOGNITION - USDE

ABFSE is recognized by USDE to accredit institutions and programs offering funeral service/ mortuary science education at the associate and bachelor degree levels.
-this includes offerings via Distance Education.

USDE UPDATE

Accreditors must renew USDE recognition every 5 years
(much like ABFSE accreditation of programs)

ABFSE petition was reviewed/approved by Department staff in January and by NACIQI March 3, 2021.

Secretary of Education approval letter anticipated in next 60 days.

TO MAINTAIN RECOGNITION, ACCREDITORS MUST

- Demonstrate that they have appropriate standards that ensure academic quality as recommended by USDE
- Demonstrate that they enforce their own standards

For this reason, ABFSE standards and policies are linked to USDE and CHEA requirements.

To maintain recognition of the accreditation function ABFSE undergoes a process similar to ABFSE comprehensive review and SS – known as Recognition Review.

ABFSE AS 'GATEKEEPER'

Means students enrolled in accredited institutions are eligible for federal financial aid.

Accreditors must have financial and human resources capacity

Demonstrate separate and independent status

SCOPE OF RECOGNITION - CHEA

Scope of recognition is similar to USDE

CHEA recognition is voluntary

Recognition renewal period now every 7 years.

Begins *now* - to be completed by December 2022

CHEA rep will observe COA meeting in October.

CHEA EXPECTS

Searchable *database* of accredited programs

Transparency and Accountability (we use Directory and website for this)

- Include current accreditation status
- Last accreditation decision
- Link to program webpage where program outcomes info
- Accreditation statement

CHEA EXPECTS

Outcomes info (from ABFSE Directory) to appear on program webpage

No more than 2 clicks

<http://www.abfse.org/html/dir-listing.html>

USDE AND CHEA BOTH EXPECT

Accreditors to emphasize:

Academic quality *and*

Quality enhancement

In 2021, the emphasis is on

diversity – equity - inclusion

ABFSE ANNUAL REPORT

Accuracy is important

Summary data is used for comparison

by students, public, media, schools, USDE/CHEA, etc.

3 programs initiated correction of reporting errors

Re-opening Annual Report delays review

Questions/errors ?? Expect summer follow-up from the ABFSE office

ANNUAL REPORT

New format expected for 2021 Annual Report

Combine cohort tracking w/ Annual Report and will track new enrollees to graduation + auto populate

Provide option for:

- summary of school responses.

- make updates throughout the year

SELECT EXCERPTS

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
New Enrollees	2560	2554	2359	2411
Grads	1720	1583	1501	1646
Attrition	756	719	688	613
Total enrolled	5947	5600	5505	5394



GRAD INFO

2020

2018

Females	67%	64.8%
White/Caucasian	69%	71%
African-American	18.2%	16.5%
Hispanic/Latino	8.8 %	9.0%
DE grads (50% or more)	39.8%	21.2%
Family	12.9%	16.5%
Parents	7.2%	10%

MORE GRAD INFO

2020

2018

Age:	age 21-30	56%	51%
	over age 35	25%	34%
Education:			
	start w/bachelor degree or higher	23%	22%
	started with HS diploma, etc.	20.5%	25%
Employment:			
	worked while in school	88.4%	83%
	in FS related employment	63.6%	68.6%

OTHER PROGRAM INFO

17 offer non-accredited programs in 9 states
238 new enrollees / 215 grads

Bachelor Degree completion – 6
21 new / 9 grads

DISTANCE EDUCATION

79% of ABFSE programs offer some DE (44/56)

29% offer the full program via Distance

36% had DE grads (took 50% or more via distance)

39.8% of all grads took their coursework in an ABFSE
recognized DE program - not Covid

22% no DE

ABFSE DE & NBE, ETC.

COA is reviewing policy for reporting of outcomes for DE students - NBE pass rates, graduation rates and job placement rates for DE.

- 42% of DE grads took NBE Arts in 2020
- 41% took NBE Sciences

DE NBE pass rate: Arts 80% Sciences 73%

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: How long will the remote learning accommodations continue?

A: length of pandemic + 180 days. End of the pandemic has not been declared.

USDE and CHEA still expect accreditors *enforce* standards.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Pandemic impacted NBE results for multiple reasons. How will that impact evaluation of NBE pass rate?

A: COA determined that 2020 NBE pass rates would not be used for accreditation decisions in 2021.

Use of 2021 results will be discussed in October.

SPEAKING OF NBE RESULTS

IF 3-year NBE average was used in 2020

9 programs had <60% in 2020

v. 6 in 2019 v. 5 in 2018

HOWEVER, SPEAKING OF NBE RESULTS

18 programs demonstrated improved NBE passrate in 2020 v. 2019

5 had <60% for the first time since 2014

2 had <60% for 1st time in past three years

13 Programs have never been < 60% since 2014

NBE RESULTS

ABFSE Directory will use a revised format for reporting NBE results in June.

3-year average will not appear

Will use 3 single years alongside the national average

Expect *your* sample in May

APPENDIX J

REQUEST for NBE exemption

Includes policy for Timely Graduation and employment/job placement

Requests due March 1 each year

NBE EXEMPTION REQUESTS (APPENDIX J)

Total requests evaluated	195		(121 in 2018)	
Number of schools	22		Requests are NOT automatic	approval
Number of students	156			
	Total Arts requests	95	Total Science requests	100
74%	Approved	62	Approved	82
26%	Denied	33	Denied	18

SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES (APPENDIX K) - 11

New courses/program/delivery
includes DE

Faculty/staff changes
includes PD, 60% of staff

Change in President/CEO

WEAVE REPLACED JURA

Currently 23 schools are *in Weave* in some fashion

Total 6 submitted SS via Weave

- 13 in some stage of preparation
- 4 registered but no input

WEAVE

Questions guide responses to each standard

Evidence to be attached

Help is available (*M. Landon*)

VIRTUAL SITE VISITS

During pandemic, use of virtual site visits were approved by USDE. In-person follow-up still required.

6 virtual site visit reports reviewed by COA in April.

6 virtual site visits are planned for May-August

Status of Fall site visits is t/b/d

COMING

ABFSE Curriculum Review – July 29-30, 2021

submit resumes *ASAP*

Professional development and Town Hall sessions during summer/fall months

Surveys: ICFSEB textbook survey
ABFSE 'Release time' survey

Other opportunities:

- ABFSE standing committees
- ICFSEB item writing

MORE

Distribute Annual Report summary data
(available via email & website)

Multiple years available on website

Directory update - June

Review 'For Educators' page of ABFSE website

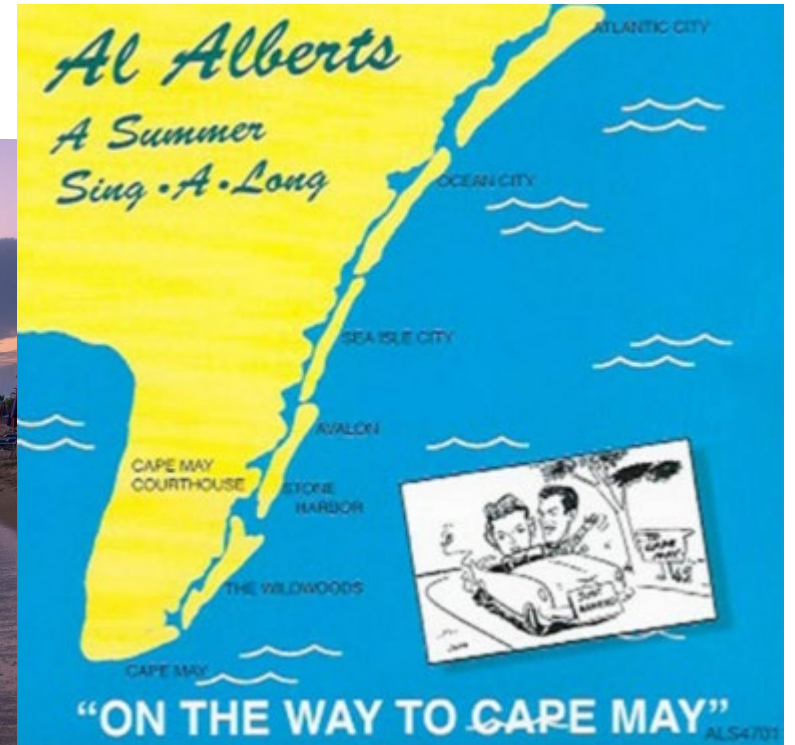
MEETINGS

October meetings – COA & Executive Committee
Nashville, TN

October 14-16, 2021

Annual Conference 2022
Dallas, TX
April 3-9, 2022

DEB RETIRES



WELCOME



Trudy Elmore in ABFSE Office

Mike Landon

taking an expanded role