

Commission on Opticianry Accreditation
Semi-Annual Meeting, September 21, 2019
Sands Convention Center, Las Vegas
Summary of Major Actions and Discussion
(These are not the official minutes of the COA semi-annual meeting.)

Commissioners:

Janet Alspaugh, NAO
Lanard Atkins, OAA
Dan Dull, Public Member
Kristina Green, OAA
Tom Hicks, OAA
Thomas Neff, NAO
Doug Nunes, OAA
Liliana Mejia Rodriguez, NFOS
Cathy Schwartz, NAO
Mary Seguiti, NFOS
Russ Tolar, NAO

Guest: Jayne Weinberger, Consultant
Debra White, COA Director of Accreditation

I. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 8:00 am. Commissioners introduced themselves.

II. Conflict of Interest and Agreement of Confidentiality

Commissioners handed in their signed Agreements.

III. Total Quality Leadership (TQL)

Motion to accept ground rules for the meeting passed. Seguiti was appointed timekeeper.

IV. Chairperson's Report

Nunes discussed meeting expectations

Robert Russo, President of NFOS entered meeting and updated the Commissioners on activities of NFOS.

V. Director of Accreditation Report

White reviewed the list of on-site visits completed, and those scheduled for the next year. The minutes of the March 2018 meeting were approved. There is a new program in Florida desiring initial COA accreditation in one-two years.

White reviewed the changes at a few programs. All will be discussed more during the meeting.

VI. Treasurer's Report

Hicks presented the financial report.

James Morris, Executive Director entered meeting and updated Commissioners on activities of the ABO/NCLE.

VII. Strategic Planning

A. Review of Strategic Plan

The Commissioners discussed and updated the Strategic Plan.

VIII. Accreditation and Reaffirmation of Accreditation

A. Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology

Nunes asked if anyone was associated with Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology. No one self-identified.

The reaffirmation of accreditation required a one-person follow-up visit this month, which could not take place due to illness. One evaluator will be sent in two weeks, and an email vote will take place within two weeks of the visit.

An email vote took place on October 13-14, 2019. The two concerns for the program were corrected. A motion was made and passed to award the program full accreditation for a six-year period, based on the program meeting the requirements of the *Essentials*.

B. New York City College of Technology

Nunes asked if anyone was associated with New York City College of Technology. Weinberger left the room.

The reaffirmation of accreditation on-site report was presented and discussed in detail. A motion was made and passed to award the program full accreditation for a six-year period, based on the program meeting the requirements of the *Essentials*.

Weinberger returned to the room.

C. Ogeechee Technical College

Nunes asked if anyone was associated with Ogeechee Technical College. No one self-identified.

The reaffirmation of accreditation on-site report was presented and discussed in detail. A motion was made and passed to award the program full accreditation for a six-year period, based on the program meeting the requirements of the *Essentials*.

IX. Progress Reports and carry-overs from spring meeting

1. Goodwin College

Nunes asked if anyone was associated with the Goodwin College. No one self-identified.

A motion was made, seconded, discussed and passed to accept the progress report.

2. New York City College of Technology (NYCCT)

Nunes asked if anyone was associated with NYCCT. Weinberger left the room.

A motion was made, seconded, discussed and passed to not accept the progress report. There was not a plan of action to increase areas of shortfall.
Weinberger returned to the room.

X. Annual Reports

A. Annual Reports- Dispensing

1. Durham Technical Community College, Durham, NC

Nunes asked if anyone was associated with Durham Technical Community College. Alspaugh and Tolar left the room.

A motion was made, seconded, discussed and passed to accept the annual report with a caveat.

Alspaugh and Tolar returned to the room

2. Essex County College, Newark, NJ (statistics only)

Nunes asked if anyone was associated with Essex County College. No one self-identified.

A motion was made, seconded, discussed and passed to accept the annual report with a caveat.

3. J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College, Richmond, VA

Nunes asked if anyone was associated with J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College. Green left the room.

A motion was made, seconded, discussed and passed to accept the annual report.

Green returned to the room.

4. Miami-Dade College, Miami, FL,

Nunes asked if anyone was associated with Miami Dade College. Rodriguez left the room.

A motion was made, seconded, discussed and passed to accept the annual report.

Rodriguez returned to the room.

5. Middlesex Community College, Middletown, CT

Nunes asked if anyone was associated with Middlesex Community College. No one self-identified.

A motion was made, seconded, discussed and passed to accept the annual report.

6. Roane State Community College, Harriman, TN,

Nunes asked if anyone was associated with Roane State Community College. No one self-identified.

A motion was made, seconded, discussed and passed to accept the annual report with a caveat.

7. Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute, Albuquerque, NM

Nunes asked if anyone was associated with Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute. No one self-identified.

A motion was made, seconded, discussed and passed to accept the annual report with additional information requests.

B. Annual Reports – Laboratory

1. Naval Ophthalmic Support & Training Activity (NOSTRA), Yorktown, VA

Nunes asked if anyone was associated with NOSTRA. No one self-identified.

A motion was made, seconded, discussed and passed to accept the annual report.

2. Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute, Albuquerque, NM,

Nunes asked if anyone was associated with Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute. No one self-identified.

A motion was made, seconded, discussed and passed to accept the annual report.

XI. Old Business

A.. Committee Reports

1. Document Review – Schwarz/Dull/Nunes

The Commissioners voted to approve the Essentials that had been sent out for public comment after the spring 2019 meeting.

XII. New Business

A. Hicks discussed the importance of professionalism during on-site visits.

B. Date for Next Meeting

March 29 at Expo East. White will look into a meeting room.

C. Meetings for Director to attend – to be addressed as needed.

D. Motion passed to have the Essentials require full-time faculty to have either ABO or NCLE Advanced certification. White will send out for comment.

E. Nunes presented the Commissioners with the process for CHEA re-recognition. Weinberger presented the 2019 Recognition Policy – Transition Framework. A motion passed to change our performance expectations on annual reports to: Graduation rate 64%, ABO pass rate to 85%, NCLE pass rate to 80%, , Employment Placement/Continuing Education to 80%. State Board pass rate is an optional statistic.”Innovations” have been added to the annual report. We plan on having the CHEA observer at our March meeting.

XIII. Adjournment and evaluation

Commissioners hand in to White any program-specific materials not bound in the meeting book.

Expense Report due in 30 days.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:00.