Appendix 1.3

**Recognition Chronology -- Dentistry**

1840 The first dental school was established and the first state statute requiring a license to practice dentistry was passed.

1847 The American Medical Association was founded to advance the profession through state licensing and improving educational quality.

1859 The American Dental Association (ADA) was founded. At the time of the Civil War, it divided into two organizations, the ADA and the Southern Dental Association. In 1897, these two groups merged into the National Dental Association. In 1921, the NDA changed its name back to the ADA.

1867 Office of Education established to collect statistics, including data on the numbers of schools and colleges.

1906 The nine-member Dental Educational Council of America was established with its membership equally representing education, licensure and practice.

1934 Dental Educational Council of America issued its last listing of dental schools using the A, B, C terminology (Reports 1958:59). There were 39 dental schools at this time.

1937 The nine-member ADA Council on Dental Education was established, retaining the tripartite structure of the earlier Dental Educational Council of America (educators, examiners, practitioners); the Council membership expanded to 12 members in 1974, again retaining the tripartite structure.

1937 Educational standards for dental schools were approved by the ADA House of Delegates for implementation in 1941-42.

1949 National Commission on Accrediting (NCA) began operating, taking over responsibilities and files of the Joint Committee on Accrediting which had been established in 1938 to control proliferation of accrediting entities.

1952 Public Law 82-250 tries to correct abuses in the G.I. Bill by requiring the U.S. Commissioner of Education to publish a list of "nationally recognized accrediting agencies."

1954 The Council on Dental Education is recognized by the U.S. Office of Education as the national accrediting agency for dentistry (Trans. 1954:26).

1963 First reference to the National Commission on Accrediting (NCA) occurs in the Council's annual report (Reports 1963:11).

1964 The Council received recognition from NCA as the "official accrediting agency in the area of dental hygiene education" and had previously received similar recognition for accreditation of dental education programs (Reports 1964:10).

1964 Federation of Regional Accrediting Agencies for Higher Education (FRACHE) replaces the National Commission of Regional Accrediting Agencies (NCRAA) which was formed in 1947 by ACE.

1968 The NCA recognized the Council for its accreditation of dental assisting and dental laboratory technology education programs (Trans. 1968:37).

1972 The Council's recognition by NCA was continued for five years; the U.S. Office of Education postponed consideration of the Council's application because the recognition criteria were being revised (Reports 1972:19; see also pp.17-20 for discussion of federal influence on education).

1973 ADA House of Delegates transferred dentistry's accreditation program from the Council on Dental Education to the new 20-member Commission on Accreditation of Dental and Dental Auxiliary Education Programs (effective January 1975). Support for the tripartite membership of the Council was reaffirmed (Reports 1973:21). The Council reported to the House that it would jeopardize its recognition by both agencies (NCA & OE) if it were to use accreditation sanctions to enforce Association policy (Reports 1973:25).

1973 Council on Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA) formed; NCA and FRACHE dissolved.

1974 Council membership expanded to 12 members, again retaining the tripartite structure originated when the Dental Educational Council of America was formed in 1906.

1975 The Commission on Accreditation of Dental and Dental Auxiliary Education Programs began to accredit educational programs. There were 59 dental schools at this time.

1975 After several years of effort, the National Commission on Accrediting and the Federation of Regional Accrediting Commission of Higher Education merged on January 1, 1975 to become the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA). For the first time, representatives from the Council of Specialized Accrediting Agencies (the group representing all recognized specialized accrediting agencies) had a voice within COPA in policy and decision-making processes.

1977 The Commission received full recognition for the maximum period when evaluated in 1977 (by both COPA and the U.S. Office of Education) (Reports 1982:40; 1977:25).

1979 The Commission on Accreditation of Dental and Dental Auxiliary Education Programs was renamed the Commission on Dental Accreditation (Reports 1979:67); the U.S. Office of Education became the U.S. Department of Education and its first Secretary was sworn in on December 6, 1979.

1980 The Commission presented testimony to a subcommittee of the U.S. Department/Office of Education against the 1979 petition of the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES) to expand its scope in 14 additional areas of education in the proprietary sector, including the two Commission-accredited areas of dental assisting and dental laboratory technician. In 1980 this ABHES petition was denied (Reports 1980:43).

1981 The Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES) petitioned USDE to expand its accreditation scope to include institutional accreditation of private, postsecondary institutions offering allied health education programs. The Commission did not support or oppose the institutional expansion of scope, but did express concern about how the public might interpret AEHES' institutional accreditation where DA and DLT programs are concerned. In late 1982, the Department approved the petition, forwarding the Commission's concern to ABHES (Reports 1982:45; 1983:38).

1984 The Commission submitted one application/petition to the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA) and the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) and received full recognition for the maximum terms (5 and 4 years) from each agency. The Commission's accreditation of advanced and specialty education programs was now recognized by COPA, as well as by USDE.

1988-89 The Commission submitted re-recognition materials to COPA and USDE, COPA granted the Commission the maximum period of five years, cited no specific areas of non-compliance, but required an annual progress report until revision of the dental hygiene accreditation standards was completed, USDE granted the Commission the maximum period of five years and cited no areas of non-compliance.

1993 In April 1993, the COPA Board voted to dissolve the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation, effective the end of 1993. Partially in response to the anticipated dissolution of COPA, the Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors (ASPA) was incorporated in August 1993. In June 1993, nine regional and seven national higher education associations formed the National Policy Board on Higher Education Institutional Accreditation (NPB).

1994 The Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation (CORPA) was formed and took over the recognition function from COPA, effective January 1, 1994.

1995-96 The Commission submitted re-recognition materials to the U.S. Department of Education in November 1995, using Criteria adopted on July 1, 1994. USDE granted the Commission recognition for the maximum period of five years, but required submission of a progress report to ensure compliance with several new USDE criteria for recognition.

1995-96&#The Commission submitted re-recognition materials for review by the Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation (CORPA) at its February 1996 meeting based on the Provisions revised by COPA during its last year of operation. The Provisions were adopted by CORPA when it was formed and went into effect in January 1994. CORPA granted the Commission re-recognition for the maximum period of five years and cited no areas of non-compliance.

1996 On December 31, 1996 CORPA filed Articles of Dissolution. The Commission on Dental Accreditation was informed that the CORPA recognition function would be assumed by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

1997 In March 1997 the Commission was informed that because the Commission was recognized by CORPA, CHEA was extending that recognition until new recognition standards can be developed.

1997 In June 1997 the USDE considered the Commission's progress report demonstrating strengthened compliance with several of the new recognition criteria. The USDE accepted the report and requested an interim report by June 1, 1998 demonstrating full compliance with four cited criteria.

1998 #9; In December 1998, the USDE considered the Commission's interim report on compliance with the four cited criteria. The USDE determined that the Commission was in full compliance with §602.21(b)(2); §602.26(c)(3); and §602.27(f), but needed to take additional action to come into full compliance with criterion §602.26(c)(4). The USDE requested that another report be submitted by December 9, 1999 demonstrating full compliance with criterion §602.26(c)(4).

1998 On September 28, 1998, the CHEA Board of Directors approved the CHEA *Recognition of Accrediting Organizations Policy and Procedures,* effective January 1999. CHEA's *Institutional Eligibility and Recognition Policy* stated that organizations which accredit programs were eligible to apply for recognition by CHEA if the majority of the accredited programs are degree-granting. CHEA reserved the right to amend its eligibility criteria for an ineligible accrediting agency.

1999 At its January 1999 meeting, the Commission noted that 545 of the Commission's 1321 accredited programs (41.3%) grant degrees and concluded that the Commission was not eligible for recognition by CHEA. The Commission determined not to seek a waiver in pursuit of CHEA recognition at that time, but to monitor the success of the newly established recognition program for accrediting agencies, and continue participation in CHEA activities.

1999 In December 1999, the USDE considered the Commission’s interim report on compliance with criterion §602.26(c)(4). The USDE Secretary found the Commission to be in compliance with the requirement and accepted the interim report.

2002 On November 15, 2000, the Commission submitted its application to the Secretary of the United States Department of Education (USDA) for continued recognition as the accrediting agency for dental and dental-related education programs. The Secretary's National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity reviewed the USDE Staff Analysis of the application and the Commission's response at its May 2001 meeting. The Commission received the Secretary's final transmittal letter, dated December 17, 2001, granting recognition to the Commission for the maximum period of five years at its February 2002 meeting.

2005 In November 2005, the Commission submitted its application to the Secretary of the United States Department of Education (USDE) for continued recognition as the accrediting agency for dental and dental-related education programs. The Secretary’s National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity reviewed the USDE Staff Analysis of the application and the Commission’s response at its June 2006 meeting.

2006 The Commission’s petition for continued recognition by the United States Department of Education (USDE) received a favorable review by the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) at its meeting on June 5, 2006. The Secretary of the USDE granted recognition to the Commission for the maximum period of five years starting December 12, 2006.

2012 On January 9, 2012, the Commission submitted its application to the Secretary of the United States Department of Education (USDE) for continued recognition as the accrediting agency for dental and dental-related education programs. The Secretary’s National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity reviewed the USDE Staff Analysis of the application and the Commission’s response at its June 2012 meeting.

2012 In August 2012, the Commission received confirmation that the U.S. Secretary of Education accepted the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity recommendation that recognition be continued to permit the Commission an opportunity to, within a 12 month period, bring itself into compliance with three criteria. In January 2013, the Commission submitted documentation that it is in compliance with the three criteria cited in the final report.

2013 In January 2013, the Commission submitted documentation that it is in compliance with the three criteria cited in the final report. The Commission’s petition for continued recognition by the United States Department of Education (USDE) received a favorable review by the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) at its meeting on June 6, 2013. In July 2013 the Secretary of the USDE Office of Postsecondary Education granted recognition to the Commission for the maximum period of four years.

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