

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
HIGHER EDUCATION LICENSURE COMMISSION

Public Session No. 17-03
March 02, 2017
810 First Street, NE
3rd floor – Grand Hall B
Washington, DC 20002

10:30 am

I. Call to Order

Commissioner Mary Dilworth called the meeting to order at 10:57 am.

Commissioners Present: Commissioner Mary Dilworth, Ed.D., Chair
Commissioner John Cross, A.B., A.M., M.S., Vice Chair
Commissioner Joanne Joyner, Ph.D., Secretary
Commissioner Janette Hoston Harris, Ph.D.
Commissioner Cheryl Steplight, Esq.

Staff Present: Angela Lee, Executive Director
Jocelyn Harris, Education Compliance Specialist
Alesia Henry, Education Compliance Specialist
Dorothy Thomas, Education Compliance Specialist
Michael Aniton, Attorney Advisor
Maia Turner, Administrative Assistant

Guests Present: University of the Potomac
Gary Hatch
Andrea Ford
Walter H. Person

Urban Ed. Inc.
Roxanne Williams

Allied Health Technology, Inc.
Frank Uzoma
Bernadette Kamara
Ann Uzoma

Argosy University
Mukul Bhalla

DC Department of Health (DOH)
Bonita Jenkins

Technical Learning Center d/b/a Prospect College
Mark Toufanian

Launch Academy
Sean Valiente

BEI Academy d/b/a The Salon Professional Academy
Peter Glazer
Patrick Guarniere
Elena Gioacchini

II. Ascertainment of Quorum

Five (5) Commission members were present constituting a quorum.

III. Approval of the Agenda

The Commission voted to approve the March 2, 2017 agenda.

IV. Approval of the January 5, 2017 meeting minutes

The Commission voted to approve the minutes from the January 5, 2017 meeting.

V. Report of the Executive Director

The following are licensure action updates:

- The **General Assembly** has satisfied the requirement of the audited financial report.
- **Mid-Atlantic College** hearing on denial was held on January 30, 2017, and the hearing officer submitted a comprehensive report of February 28, 2017. Further action will be necessary at a later time.
- The **University of Phoenix** has provided the Commission with their certification of accreditation that was approved on January 23, 2017.

- **Bennett Career Institution** still has an outstanding financial plan.
- **Toni Thomas and Associates** was to submit a complete financial audit on February 28, 2017. This item is still outstanding.
- **BEI Capelli d/b/a The Salon Professional** will be addressed later on during this agenda.
- **The Nursing Assistant Academy** is in full compliance. Having satisfied all the requests of the Commission.
- **The Relay Graduate School** is in full compliance having satisfied all the requests of the Commission.
- **Bethel Training Institute** has until April 15, 2017 to satisfy the Commission's requirements.
- **SOME Center for Employment Services** has until April 15, 2017 to satisfy the Commission's requirements.
- **Technical Learning Center**, regarding Complaint number 2016-9 will be addressed later during this agenda.
- **The Ultimate Medical Academy** has supplied the Commission with the official written response as requested.
- **The New York Code and Design Academy** provided updates that they are no longer moving forward with the initiative to pursue.

VI. Commission Approved Applications

A. One year approval

The Commission approved the following applications for one (1) year, not to exceed March 31, 2018.

Renewals & Amendments submitted at time of renewal

<u>Institutions</u>	<u>License Type</u>
General Assembly (ND)	Renewal/Amendment (New Program)
Institute of World Politics (D)	Renewal
Southeast Children's Fund (ND)	Renewal
Calvary Bible Institute (ND)	Renewal

Amendments Only

* The licensure period for institutions seeking approval to amend by adding new programs, new location or name change will synchronize with the institutions current license.

<u>Institutions</u>	<u>License Type</u>
Technical Learning Centers d/b/a Prospect College (D)	(*New Program Amendment – <i>Electrical Technician</i>) Licensure will synchronize with current license which expires 5.31.2017
Career Technical Institute (D)	New Program Amendment – <i>Associate Degree of Applied Science in Hospitality</i>

Conditional Exemptions

<u>Institutions</u>	<u>License Type</u>
Notre Dame School of Law(D)	Renewal
Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary	Renewal

B. Two year Approval

The Commission approved the following applications for a period of two (2) years, not to exceed March 31, 2019.

<u>Institutions</u>	<u>License Type</u>
Byte Back, Inc.	Renewal/Amendment – New Program
University of Phoenix	Renewal/Amendment-New Program

C. State Approving Agency for Veterans Educational benefits

The HELC, acting as the District of Columbia State Approving Agency for Veterans Educational benefits, approved the following applications:

<u>Institute of Higher Learning</u>	<u>Application Type</u>
Georgetown University	New Programs (Doctorate in Biostatistics; Master of Professional Studies in Applied Intelligence; Master of Professional Studies in Regulatory Affairs; Master of Science in Integrative Neurobiology)
Georgetown School of Continuing Studies	New Programs (Certificates in Cybersecurity Strategy, Data Science, Early Intervention, Education Policy and Program, Facilitation, Health Coaching, Social Media Management, and Transformational Leadership)
Georgetown University	New Programs (Master of Science in Economics; Master of Arts in Political Economics)

VII. Renewal/Amendment Applications

A. Allied Health and Technology Institute

Allied Health and Technology Institute has submitted to the Higher Education Licensure Commission an application requesting license renewal to continue offering non-degree programs in Home Health Aide (HHA) and a request to add English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESL).

The Commission voted to deny decision on the application for license renewal and new program amendment submitted by Allied Health and Technology Institute.

B. University of the Potomac

University of the Potomac has submitted to the Higher Education Licensure Commission an application requesting license renewal to continue offering degree and non-degree certificate training and professional development programs including: Associate of Science, Bachelor of Science, Graduate degrees in Accounting, International Business, Government Contract Management, Business under Security and Policy, Network Security Management, Hospitality and Tourism Management, Healthcare Administration and Information Technology.

The Commission voted to approve the application for license renewal for the University of the Potomac for a period of one (1) year, not to exceed March 31, 2018 with the condition of submitting a bad debts statement no later than March 31, 2017.

VIII. Provisional Conditional Exemption Applications

A. Argosy University

Argosy University has submitted to the Higher Education Licensure Commission an application for conditional exemption to offer the following programs: Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice, Master of Arts in Education in Educational Administration, Master of Arts in Education in Higher and Postsecondary Education, Master of Arts in Forensic Psychology, Master of Public Health, Master of Science in Human Services, Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling, Doctorate of Education in Counseling Psychology and Doctor of Education in Higher and Postsecondary Education.

The Commission voted unanimously to approve the request for conditional exemption submitted by Argosy University for a period of one (1) year, not to exceed March 31, 2018.

IX. State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) Applications

A. Trinity Washington University

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Trinity Washington University has submitted an application to the Higher Education Licensure Commission an application to become a SARA institution.

The Commission voted (3 affirmative, 2 abstentions), to approve the application for participation in SARA submitted by Trinity Washington University for a period of one (1) year, not to exceed March 31, 2018.

B. Catholic University of America

Catholic University of America has submitted an application to the Higher Education Licensure Commission an application to become a SARA institution.

The Commission voted unanimously to approve the application for participation in SARA submitted by Catholic University of America for a period of one (1) year, not to exceed March 31, 2018.

X. Status Hearing

A. Case No 2017-004

The institution is currently being charged with the following violation. DC Official Code § 38-1312(a)(1) BEI Capelli d/b/a The Salon Professional Academy in violation of the conditions of license approval.

The order of sequence:

- At the November 3, 2016 Public Session, the Commission voted to approve the application submitted by BEI Capelli d/b/a The Salon Professional Academy for provisional licensure as a non-degree institution for a period of one year, not to exceed November 30, 2017 with the conditions of the submission of a certificate of occupancy and a satisfactory joint site visit performed by the HELC staff and the Board of Barber and Cosmetology, as well as updated bank statements to be completed by December 30, 2016.
- The certificate of occupancy was sent to the Commission on December 27, 2016.
- The site visit occurred on January 18, 2017, during which several deficiencies in the facility were identified.
- On January 24, 2017; the HELC staff discovered that the institution was in full operation prior to completing the satisfactory site visit by the Commission and the Board of Barber and Cosmetology, which is violation of the conditions of the approval.
- An unannounced site visit was conducted on January 25, 2017; confirmed that the institution was operating prior to satisfying the conditions, and subsequently the institution provided evidence of all corrected deficiencies, which were confirmed by a follow-up site visit on February 15, 2017.

The Commission voted to accept the Order of Compromise for Case Number 2017-004. Pursuant to DC Official Code § 38-1312(a)(1) the Commission imposed a fine in the amount of \$2000 due payable to the DC Treasurer within 15 days of execution.

B. Technical Learning Center d/b/a Prospect College

The institution is currently being charged in violation of 5DCMRA8004.14(c) for improper advertising.

The order of sequence:

- During the public session 2017-01 held January 5, 2017 the Commission heard from Mark Toufanian regarding the improper advertising.
- Mr. Toufanian was personally served a Notice of Infraction for violation 5DCMRA8004.14(c).

The Commission imposed a fine in the amount of \$500 due, payable to the District of Columbia Treasurer.

XI. Complaints

A. Complaint #2016-9, Technical Learning Center d/b/a Prospect College (continued from the 2017-01 Public Session held January 5, 2017.)

The Commission received complaint on August 19, 2016 from Ms. Dawn Haygood alleging faculty, curriculum, and handbook deficiencies.

The Commission voted unanimously to dismiss as resolved complaint #2016-09.

B. Complaint #2017-002, Howard University

The Commission received complaint on September 07, 2016 from Steven X. Lee alleging that the institution failed to provide his transcript and inaccurately recorded his grades.

The Commission voted unanimously to dismiss as resolved complaint #2017-002.

C. Complaint #2017-001, University of the District of Columbia (UDC)

The Commission received complaint on February 3, 2017 from Yonathan Ambaye alleging disability based discrimination. Complainant opened a case with the DC Office of Human Rights and OHR found probable cause in his case. UDC is ultimately exempt from Commission enforcement authority.

The Commission voted unanimously to dismiss as resolved complaint #2017-001.

D. Innovative Institute

The Commission received complaint on February 23, 2017 from Phanessa Simpson alleging that the institution has rodent infestation and no hot water or heat. The matter is still being investigated and there will be an update at the next public session, 17-05.

No action is required at this time by the Commission. Investigation pending.

XII. Correspondence and Communications

A. University of Phoenix

Re: Apollo Education Group

The letter dated 02/02/17, notifying the Commission that the parent company of University of Phoenix and several other educational subsidiaries, announced that it has completed the agreement to be a consortium of investors including The Vistria Group, LLC, and funds affiliated with Apollo Global Management, LLC.

No action is required at this time by the Commission.

B. Inter-American Defense College

Re: Intent to Seek MSCHE Accreditation

In a letter dated 02/23/17, informing that while the Inter-American Defense College (IADC) remains accredited by the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS), as of December 21, 2016, they have formally begun the process to become accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE).

No action is required at this time by the Commission.

C. Calvary Bible Institute

Re: OSSE CBI License Renewal BI-Annual Review Request

In a letter dated 02/15/17, a request is made that Calvary Bible Institute's renewal be approved every two (2) years or every other year.

The Commission voted to approve the request of the Calvary Bible Institute's renewal for one year be extended to two (2) years, not to exceed March 31, 2019.

D. Distance Education Accrediting Commission

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In a letter dated 02/27/17, DEAC provides notice of actions taken during their January 27, 2017 meeting. Specific items with impact to institutions approved by the HELC are as follows:

- Educatore School of Education located at 1701 K St, NW WDC received approval of initial accreditation.

No action is required at this time by the Commission.

E. Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS)

In a letter dated 12/22/16, notice provided of its decision to defer further action on the application to grant initial approval to BAU International University located at 1510 H St, NW WDC until their April 2017 meeting.

No action is required at this time by the Commission.

F. Matthew Caspari, Hearing Officer

In a letter dated 02/28/17, Hearing Officer Matthew Caspari provides a comprehensive report regarding the Mid-Atlantic Hearing held 1/30/17.

The Commission has 60 days from 1/30/17 to issue its Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law regarding the institution's application.

G. Advertising & Design Education Corporation d/b/a Miami Ad School

In a letter dated 01/25/17, sent communication in response to the HELC request on the status of Portfolio Center. Advertising & Design Education Corporation d/b/a Miami Ad School purchased Portfolio Center July 15, 2015. The appropriate ownership change process nor a proper institution closure process occurred. Staff are now in the process of trying to locate student records.

No action is required at this time by the Commission.

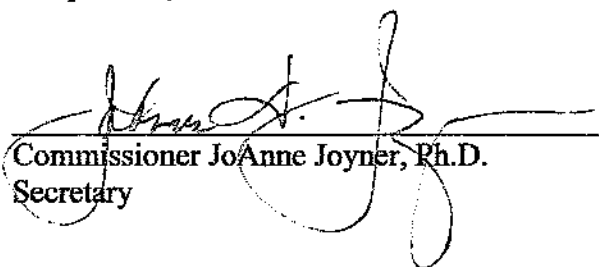
XIII. Public Comments

No public comments.

XIV. Adjournment

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Commissioner JoAnne Joyner, Ph.D.
Secretary