Rayane AbuSabha is the Executive Director of the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND). She is also Professor Emerita at The Sage Colleges in Troy, New York where she served as the Department Chair of Nutrition Science and directed several nutrition and dietetics programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Before coming to The Sage Colleges, Rayane was the Executive Director of the Spinal Cord Injury Board and the Breast Cancer Research Board at the New York State Department of Health. She has over thirty years of research experience and is well published in the area of nutrition education.

Christy Baily-Byers serves a dual role as the Director of Education Services for the Accreditation Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (ARC/STSA) and Education and Accreditation Resource, LLC (EdAccred), where she is responsible for the development and delivery of accreditation-related education programs, marketing communication and outreach activities. The ARC/STSA is a CAAHEP Committee on Accreditation, accrediting more than 400 programs. EdAccred is an initiative to provide support and resources to assist educators in the development, administration, and assessment of their programs. Prior to working in accreditation, Christy founded and led Baily-Byers Communications, headed up a university public relations department, and served as a faculty member, developing and teaching courses in public relations, corporate communication, journalism and business management at several major universities.

Lauren Bozich is the Senior Director of Accreditation with the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND). She has worked for ACEND for ten years and has recently been promoted to her current title. Prior to becoming the Senior Director of Accreditation, she was the senior manager of program accreditation. Lauren has been a Registered Dietitian (RD) for over 14 years and received a Master of Science in Nutrition Education from Rosalind Franklin University. Prior to her work at ACEND and in accreditation, she has worked in corporate wellness and in various clinical settings as a dietitian. She lives in the suburbs of Chicago Illinois.

Eric Brichto is the Vice President of Accreditation Operations and Counsel for the Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education (CAHME). Eric has worked in accreditation for the past ten years. Prior to working in accreditation Eric prosecuted social security fraud for the Social Security Administration’s Office of the Inspector General. Eric is also an avid fan of the Baltimore Ravens.
Linda Csiza, PT, DPT, DSc, is a Senior Accreditation Specialist for American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education (ABPTRFE) which accredits close to 400 physical therapy residency and fellowship programs across the United States. Linda is a Board-Certified Clinical Specialist in Neurologic Physical Therapy. She began working at APTA in 2019. Prior to working for APTA, Linda taught at Texas Woman’s University in Dallas, Texas. Before coming to Texas, Linda taught at the University of Colorado Health Science Center in Denver, Colorado. Linda’s responsibilities now include consulting with developing programs and programs undergoing renewal of accreditation. She also recruits, trains, and guides the site visit team members and the Candidacy Review Council.

Jill Fogolin joined the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE) in October 2015 as an Accreditation Specialist. In her current position as the Director of Accreditation, Jill oversees the implementation of accreditation processes, coordinates committee work and facilitates the development and management of reviewer trainings. Jill is dedicated to engaging with the COAMFTE community which includes the COAMFTE Commission, Review Committee Members, Site Visitors and Program Faculty. Prior to joining COAMFTE, Jill worked for twenty years in non-profit organizations holding various administrative and supervisor positions in academic settings with a focus in student advocacy. Jill earned a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from University of California at Irvine and a Master of Education in Marriage, Family, and Childe Counseling from University of Southern California.

Megan Fujita is the Executive Director of Accreditation at the Council on Social Work Education where she oversees accreditation operations of more than 900 social work programs and post-master’s fellowship programs in the U.S. Dr. Fujita has served in a variety of administrative roles at universities, focused on assessment, evaluation, and curriculum development. Megan earned a Ph.D. in education policy and Master of Social Work in interpersonal practice and mental health. She is a lecturer at George Washington University where she teaches statistics and holds a faculty affiliate appointment at George Mason University’s College of Education and Human Development, where her research focuses on college decision-making and mental health among students with disabilities.

Michele Giannosa graduated from Concordia University Chicago in 2016 and has a Bachelor of Science in Natural Sciences. She has been with NAACLS since June 2018, starting as the Program Review Liaison and shortly transferring into Program Accreditation. She currently oversees 253 Medical Laboratory Science Programs as well as serving as the Staff Liaison for the Executive Committee and Bylaws Committee for the Board of Directors and the Future and Emerging Professions and Standards Revision Taskforces. Michele also serves as the RCAP and Board Liaison for our semi-annual meetings. She is a Chicago naïve but currently resides in Elmwood Park with her husband, son, and dog.
Kendra L. Harrington is the Director of Residency & Fellowship Accreditation at the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) where she oversees the development and accreditation of approximately 400 physical therapy residency and fellowship programs. In addition, Dr. Harrington is a clinical physical therapist specializing in pelvic floor conditions, as well as being an educator, lecturer, and researcher. From 2003 to 2009 she was the exclusive pelvic floor physical therapist at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, DC. At Walter Reed, she served as a clinical specialist to family members, colleagues, medical students, residents, and fellows. During that time, she was appointed as a faculty member of the F. Edward Hebert School of Medicine, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. She graduated from Russell Sage College/Sage Graduate School in Troy, New York with her bachelor’s, master’s and Doctor of Physical Therapy degrees.

Cindy Irani (Counsel, Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP) assists clients with navigating emerging issues and regulatory compliance in education law and political law. Cindy has experience dealing with issues pertaining to the federal Higher Education Act, state educational licensing laws and the accreditation of institutions of higher education. She helps advise nonprofit and for-profit educational institutions, education companies and private investors on complex transactions, including changes of ownership involving postsecondary institutions. Cindy also counsels higher education accrediting bodies on a broad range of legal and regulatory issues.

Angela Kennedy is the current Chief Executive Officer of Commission on Accreditation of Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM). Dr. Kennedy is a strong advocate for "Health Information Where & When You Need It." She is recognized nationally and internationally for her work in consumer health advocacy and consumer health literacy. Dr. Kennedy is a former President and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA). She had testified before the US Senate HELP Committee and was appointed by the US Secretary of the Department of Health & Human Services to serve on the Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) Health Information Standards Federal Advisory Committee.

Leah Matthews currently serves as Executive Director of the Distance Education Accrediting Commission located in Washington, DC. The DEAC is a private, non-profit organization founded in 1926 that accredits 102 distance education institutions serving nearly 1.2 million students annually. Dr. Matthews has over twenty years of experience in higher education accreditation. Her expertise in distance education policy led to her selection as a member of the U.S. Department of Education’s 2019 Distance Education and Innovation Committee. Dr. Matthews has contributed her expertise as a board member that include serving as Chair of the WICHE Cooperative for Educational Technologies (WCET) a board member of the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA) and as vice-president of the board of directors for the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQMHE).
John Przypyszny is a Partner at Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath and leads the firm’s education team. He is a preeminent legal authority on higher education law and a trusted advisor to clients on matters pertaining to accreditation, regulatory compliance, policy, and transactions related to higher education. With almost three decades of experience, John counsels institutions, education companies and accrediting agencies. He frequently speaks on education law issues and co-authored a compendium on distance education for the National Association of College and University Attorneys.

Anthony Stanowski is the President & CEO for the Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education (CAHME). He guides CAHME’s strategic vision and operations to advance the quality of healthcare management education globally. CAHME accredits 138 programs in healthcare management. On the CAHME Board since 2011, Anthony transitioned from Chair-Elect to CEO in 2016. Since 2016, accredited programs increased by 53% and more than 9,000 students attend CAHME Accredited programs. His career includes executive and management positions with a large academic health system, a community health system, two global Fortune 200 companies, and a private healthcare technology firm. Anthony received his doctorate from the Medical University of South Carolina, graduate degrees from Drexel (Marketing) and Widener (Health Care Administration) Universities, and a bachelor’s in communications (magna cum laude) from the University of Pennsylvania.

Emily Vandermade is the Accreditation Coordinator at the Commission on English Language Program Accreditation (CEA), where she supports the work of the Commission, assists the Director of Compliance, serves as regulatory liaison, and acts as a representative on site visits. She holds an MA in TESOL and has 15 years of experience in the field of English-as-a-Second-Language as an instructor and administrator in the US and abroad. Prior to working at CEA, she spent seven years at a large community college in various roles including coordinating the teacher training program. She has prior volunteer experience as the Professional Development co-chair for WATESOL, the local branch of TESOL International.

Kelly Velasquez is the Associate Director of Accreditation Site Visit Operations at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, where she has worked for the past 25 years. Currently, she is responsible for directing all activities related to the accreditation site visit process, including the recruitment, selection, and evaluation of site visitors. In her prior role with the accreditation team, she developed a comprehensive Accreditation Quality Management System, which includes multi-faceted assessment and data collection mechanisms, as well as provided trend reports to the CAA on programmatic and student outcome measures. She holds a bachelor’s degree from Bucknell University in English and Psychology and completed all the coursework for a master’s degree in Clinical Psychology with an emphasis in Research Statistics from Loyola University.