

ASPA Spring Conference 2023 - Speaker Biographies



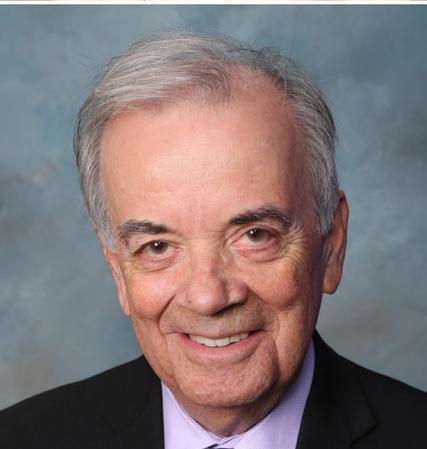
Ashley Appleman, MA, Training Manager, ABET, has worked for the past 12 years in training and professional development for higher education non-profit member organizations. ABET accredits college and university programs worldwide in the disciplines of applied and natural science, computing, engineering, and engineering technology at the associate, bachelor's, and master's degree levels. Ms. Appleman oversees ABET's volunteer expert training initiatives with the support of a robust training committee of subject matter experts. During Ms. Appleman's time at ABET, she has transitioned ABET's online courses and resources pages to an acquired learning management system. Additionally, she assisted with the development and implementation of Virtual Review Training and virtual training offerings in lieu of in-person sessions during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Kathryn Dodge is the founder of Dodge Advisory Group, LLC, focused on excellence in policy and practice in higher education especially as it relates to quality assurance. Kathryn served as a public member on the Commission for Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) for eight years and is in her sixth year at the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC). She also served on the distance education committee for Accrediting Bureau for Health Education Schools (ABHES) and represents NH, by gubernatorial appointment, as a Commissioner at Education Commission of the States and served on the founding board of the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA) for eight years. Dodge earned a B.A. in biblical literature, M.A.s in organizational development and student guidance and counseling, and a Ph.D. in human and organization systems from Fielding Graduate University.



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.



Ronald Hunt, DDS, MS is public member and chair of the Accreditation Council for Art Therapy Education (ACATE), a council of accreditation within the Commission on Accreditation for Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP). He is professor emeritus at Midwestern University in Glendale, Arizona after a career in academic dentistry administration. His administrative appointments over 25 continuous years include dental school dean and associate dean for academic affairs. Ron is a board-certified public health dentist and has published over 60 peer-reviewed articles about epidemiological surveys, clinical research, health services research, educational research, health policy, and dental education policy. He has served on the Commission on Dental Accreditation and the Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education.

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Mary E. Kiersma, PharmD, PhD is the Assistant Director of Professional Degree Program Accreditation at the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE). Her roles include engaging professional degree program stakeholders, leading site visits, designing and conducting research, and speaking about ACPE activities at training sessions and professional meetings. Prior to joining ACPE, Dr. Kiersma was the Director of Assessment and Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice at Manchester University College of Pharmacy in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Dr. Kiersma received her PharmD from Purdue University. After working as a community pharmacist, she returned to Purdue to pursue MS and PhD degrees, with a focus on evaluation and assessment in pharmacy education.



Priya Lorenzen is an Associate Director at the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and has been with CCNE since 2014. Prior to her time at CCNE, she completed a Master of Arts in International Affairs at American University in Washington, DC and a bachelor's degree in political science at the University of Florida.



John Przepyszny 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.



Doreen Stiskal, PT, PHD, is the physical therapist program accreditation manager for the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy (CAPTE) at the American Physical Therapy Program. Dr. Stiskal recently retired as the chairperson of the Department of Physical Therapy, Seton Hall University, Nutley, NJ. Previous experience includes academic leadership in physical therapist assistant as well as in post-professional health science education. Amongst her many accreditation-related service activities, Dr. Stiskal completed two consecutive terms (2012-2020) on CAPTE and has been an on-site visitor since 1993.

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Anthony Stanowski is the President & CEO for the Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education. He guides CAHME's strategic vision and operations to advance the quality of healthcare management education *globally*. CAHME accredits 138 programs in healthcare management. A CAHME Board Member since 2011, he transitioned from Chair-Elect to CEO in 2016. 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.



Kristen Varol has worked at CEPH since 2010 providing consultation to and staffing accreditation reviews for schools and programs across the US and internationally. She is the primary staff contact for units interested in pursuing initial accreditation and those located outside of the US. Kristen supports internal consistency in accreditation reviews across a staff of nine site visit coordinators. She has presented at professional meetings about accreditation best practices and on CEPH accreditation criteria, particularly in relation to MPH curricula. Kristen received her Master of Public Health degree in health behavior and health promotion from Ohio State University. She also holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in journalism from California State University, Long Beach.



Heidi Vellenga is the Executive Director of the Commission on English Language Program Accreditation (CEA). She oversees the quality of the CEA accreditation process and agency operations as a specialized USDE-recognized accrediting agency for postsecondary intensive English as a Second Language programs, leads implementation of CEA's Strategic Plan and represents the agency and CEA standards to accredited sites and the public. She ensures that the Commission performs as a well-governed, high-functioning, and reliable accreditation decision-making body. Heidi has over two decades of experience in ESL teaching and language program administration at US- based and international sites. She holds an MA in Applied Linguistics & TESOL, a PhD in Applied Linguistics and is a former English USA Executive Board member and serves on the Editorial Board of TESOL Journal.