

ACCSC's Executive Director Testifies at House Education Committee Hearing

"Strengthening Accreditation to Better Protect Students and Taxpayers"



On April 27, 2017, ACCSC's Executive Director, Dr. Michale S. McComis, testified before the House Committee on Education and the Workforce at the full-committee hearing *"Strengthening Accreditation to Better Protect Students and Taxpayers."* As part of his testimony, Dr. McComis discussed accreditation and the contributions that it makes towards enhancing the quality of education in the United States, outlined the distinct approaches to quality assessment deployed by ACCSC, and offered

several ideas to members of Congress regarding ways in which accreditation can be strengthened and improved. As noted by Dr. McComis in his testimony, "Accreditation, as the sector with the principle responsibility for quality assurance in higher education, needs to work earnestly toward moving the discussion of accreditation's effectiveness from that of skepticism to confidence." Dr. McComis further noted, "There is no doubt that the enterprise of accreditation is evolving and must continue to improve, and that accreditors must continue to embrace innovative approaches to education while balancing the need for greater accountability."

Duane Kramer, Chairman of the ACCSC Commission, noted "The Accrediting Commission was incredibly pleased to have the opportunity to actively participate in the dialogue with members of Congress on ways to strengthen accreditation. ACCSC will continue to pursue opportunities to discuss the important role that accreditation plays and to share how ACCSC-accredited institutions are providing a high quality educational experience for hundreds of thousands of students each year."

- [Click here](#) to download a PDF version of the written testimony of Dr. Michale S. McComis, ACCSC Executive Director.
 - [Click here](#) to access additional information on the Full Committee Hearing, including a recording of the webcast and links to the written testimony from each witness that appeared before the Committee.
 - [Click here](#) to view the post-hearing Press Release issued by the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.
 - [Click Here](#) to view the statement issued by Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC), Chairwoman of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.
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[The Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges \(ACCSC\)](#) is recognized by the United States Department of Education as the designated institutional accrediting body for over 650 post-secondary, trade and technical schools that provide education to over 150,000 students in a wide variety of vocational programs each year. 2017 marks 50 years of continuous recognition for ACCSC, including earning, in 2011 & 2016, consecutive five-year recognition grants from the U.S. Department of Education. Today, ACCSC remains committed to helping enhance the student educational experience through quality assurance, supporting workforce development, and bridging the growing skills gap in the United States.