# NC-SARA Board Actions from the October 2020 Meeting

**Countdown to Start:** 10:00

November 19, 2020

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# WELCOME!

- Please use the **Question and Answer** feature for questions.
- The **Closed Caption** option is available.
- The webinar will be recorded.
- This PowerPoint and any other resources referenced will be available next week to all who registered, and will be posted on the NC-SARA website.

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# Presenters

**Lori Williams, Ph.D.**
President & CEO, NC-SARA

**Jeannie Yockey-Fine**
General Counsel, NC-SARA

**Wanda Barker**
SARA Director, SREB
Division Director, Education Technology & Multistate Cooperative Programs

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# Agenda

- NC-SARA Board Meeting Overview
  - New Board Members
  - Branch Campus Working Group
- Policy Change Modification (1)
- Policy Clarifications (5)
- Questions and Discussion

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# NC-SARA Board Meeting Overview

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# NC-SARA New Board Members

## Lanna Dueck

- Executive Director, Arizona SARA Council
- Chair of the WICHE-SARA Regional Steering Committee
- State Portal Entity

Lanna Dueck

## Angela Lee

- Executive Director, District of Columbia Higher Education Licensure Commission (HELC)
- Chair of the SREB-SARA Regional Steering Committee
- State Portal Entity

Angela Lee

## Carlos Morales, Ph.D.

- President, Tarrant County College's Connect Campus (Texas)

Carlos Morales

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# NC-SARA Branch Campus Working Group

- **Purpose and Charge:**
  The purpose of the Branch Campus Working Group is to create a forum for multiple stakeholder voices to discuss and assist in resolving issues associated with NC-SARA policy regarding branch campuses.

- **Activity Period:**
  October 30, 2020 to May 3, 2021

- **Composition (Chairs and Appointments):**
  - 2 Chairs (Susan Heegaard & Belle Wheelan)
  - 10 members (board members, NC-SARA staff, state portal entity/regulators, and institutional representatives

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# Policy Change Modification and Clarifications

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- Policy Change Modification *(1)*
- Modifications to Clarify Processes (5)

**Here we go!**

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# Board Actions – October Meeting 2020

**Policy Change Modification:**

(ACTION) Approve Section 3.2 change to add one additional reason that a state might put an institution on provisional status.

Section 3.2 Provisional admission or renewal of an Institution

a) A State, at its discretion, may approve an Institution applying for initial or renewal participation in SARA to participate on Provisional Status in any of the following circumstances:

**9) The participating Institution is in violation of, or noncompliance with SARA policies.**

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# Board Actions – October Meeting 2020

**Policy Clarification Modification (1):**

(ACTION) Approve Section 1 modification to add a phrase regarding non-credit bearing courses to the definition of “Operate.”

Section 1, Definitions
“Operate” means: activities conducted by an Institution in support of offering Distance Education degree or non-degree courses or programs, **and non-credit bearing courses** in a State, including but not limited to instruction, marketing, recruiting, tutoring, Supervised Field Experiences, experiential learning placements, Out-of-State Learning Placements and other student support services.

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# Board Actions – October Meeting 2020

**Policy Clarification Modification (2):**

(ACTION) Approve Section 2.6(c) modification to replace the word “it” with “the Compact” for clarity of reference.
Section 2.6(c)

By July 1, 2020, each Regional Compact shall develop and implement a means to hear and ~~themselves~~ **itself** resolve appeals from States for which ~~it~~ **the Compact** denies membership or renewal of membership in SARA. During any such appeal the State’s status as a SARA Member (or non-Member) State remains unchanged.

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# Board Actions – October Meeting 2020

**Policy Clarification Modification (3):**

(ACTION) Approve Section 3.1(b)(6) modification to language to align with application requirements for all institutions when programs are no longer offered

Section 3.1(b) – in order to be eligible to participate in SARA, an institution must:

(6) Agree that, in cases where the institution cannot fully deliver the instruction for which a student has contracted, it will provide a reasonable alternative for delivering the instruction or reasonable financial compensation for the education the student did not receive.

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# Board Actions – October Meeting 2020

**Policy Clarification Modification (4):**

(ACTION) Approve Section 4.4(g) modification to delete the word “issues” in the context of the section regarding mandatory arbitration.

Mandatory arbitration agreements do not pertain to SARA policy ~~issues~~. Disputes between students and institutions on SARA-related matters are to be resolved by the Institution’s State Portal Entity or through other means. A student may, however, bring to the Institution Home State Portal Entity any issue that potentially involves a violation of SARA policies. Institutions that choose to operate under SARA accept a student’s right to bring complaints about violation of SARA policies through the SARA process.

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# Board Actions – October Meeting 2020

## Policy Clarification Modification (5):

(ACTION) Approve Section 8.2(a) modification to add a phrase to specifically indicate that input on policy is expected from institutions and other key stakeholders and brought to the attention of NC-SARA.

Section 8.2(a)
Process: Questions, comments, or suggested modifications to SARA policies, from Institutions and other key stakeholders, may be brought to the attention of:

SARA Portal Entity directors in SARA states;
SARA directors in the Regional Compacts;
Regional SARA steering committees; or
The President or staff of the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA).

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# SARA Manual Is Now Updated on NC-SARA Website

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# Call for Policy Revision Suggestions for Spring 2021

NC-SARA is interested in hearing from you with any input you and your colleagues may have regarding potential SARA policy revisions for the Board's consideration during its Spring 2021 meeting.

- Please submit your suggestions as well as explanatory comments to info@nc-sara.org

- Due Date: Monday November 30, 2020.

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# Questions and Discussion

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# Thank You!

For questions please email:
Info@nc-sara.org

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Twitter: @NCSARA_News