

IN THE FIELD: NC-SARA'S INSTITUTION CONFERENCE

July 12-13, 2022



IN THE FIELD: CONFERENCE PROGRAM

In The Field will feature engaging sessions and featured speakers for institutional personnel working in interstate distance education and state authorization reciprocity compliance. While focused on institutions participating in SARA, this 2-day conference is also open to SARA State Portal Entities and SARA regional compact staff.

Tuesday, July 12, 2022 ~ 10:00 am – 2:00 pm Mountain Time

- 10:00 am** **Welcome**
Lori Williams, President and CEO, NC-SARA
- 10:15 am** **The U.S. Department of Education's Potential Regulations That Could Impact SARA**
NC-SARA Staff
Shari Miller, Consultant
In this session, participants will learn about proposed regulation changes that may be coming from the Department of Education that could impact SARA.
- 11:30 am** **Break**
- 12:30 pm** **What Is SARA Source? A Demonstration and Insights**
Beverly Wade, Assistant Director for Student and Institution Support, NC-SARA
Yovani Pina, Director of IT, NC-SARA
Nick Ortiz, Application Programmer/Analyst, NC-SARA
Mark Prestopnik, Assistant Director of Online Teaching & Learning, Duquesne University
Amelia Pfeiffer, Regulatory Affairs Coordinator, Boise State University
In this session, participants will learn about the value of and requirements for participating in SARA Source, NC-SARA's searchable catalog of distance education programs offered by SARA-participating institutions.
- 1:45 pm** **Looking forward to Wednesday**
- 2:00 pm** **Adjourn for the day**

Wednesday, July 13, 2022 ~ 9:00 am – 3:30 pm Mountain Time

- 9:00 am** **Day 2 Welcome**
Lori Williams, President and CEO, NC-SARA
- 9:15 am** **Key Note Speaker: *Distance Education in 2022: A Perspective on the Ever-Changing Landscape***
Phil Hill, MindWires
As we exit the COVID-19 pandemic and its massive reliance on distance education, there are significant efforts to move beyond the virtualization of traditional face-to-face classroom and to also move beyond earlier business models. At the same time, the Biden administration's regulatory efforts in education have centered on a consumer protection mindset, with direct implications for distance education. These trends have the potential to be more significant than the simple expansion or contraction of the number of learners in online courses and programs. What is the current state of online learning and what should we expect in the coming decade? How will regulatory actions impact institutions looking to increase their online presence? This talk will explore how the influence of online learning and new technologies are impacting the future of higher education.
- 10:15** **Break**
- 10:30 am** **Realigning Professional Licensure within the 21st Century**
Kenneth M. Heard, III, Director, Department of State Authorization, University of Mississippi Medical Center
Jennifer Lewis, Associate Director of Compliance and Ethics, University of Southern Mississippi
Anne Klingen, Director of Online Design & eLearning, University of Mississippi
2020-2022 saw unprecedented change in the professional licensure landscape. These changes were brought about in part because of COVID, Baby Boomer retirements, and the Great Resignation. This session will address the implications of these changes and highlight the best means of addressing professional licensure in this evolving landscape.
- 11:30 am** **Break**

Wednesday, July 13, 2022 (cont.)

- 12:00 pm** **Differences Between Emergency Remote Learning And Online Learning: A Panel of Experts**
William Prado, D.B.A, Professor & Program Director, Sustainable MBA and Sustainable Management Programs, Prescott College – Moderator
Bethany Simunich, Director of Research and Innovation, Quality Matters
Lisa Templeton, Associate Provost for Ecampus, Oregon State University
Patrick Wilson, Ed.D., Director, Online & Extended Learning, New Mexico Highlands University
This panel will discuss and share their perspectives on assuring quality in online learning, even through emergency remote learning that occurred during the pandemic. Learn how institutions were able to keep their momentum and focus on student success.
- 1:00 pm** **Break**
- 1:30 pm** **NC-SARA's New Educational Resources for Institutions: A Guided Tour & Demonstration**
Melanie Booth, Senior Director of Educational Programs and Communications
Terri Taylor-Straut, Educational Programs Architect and Research Analyst
Participants will have a guided tour and detailed demonstration of several of NC-SARA's new educational resources for institutions, including SARA Quick Start Guides and two new online courses designed for institutional personnel to learn about SARA. During this session, participants will also have the opportunity to provide feedback about areas of SARA for which they think additional resources could be most helpful.
- 2:15 pm** **Accreditation, State Authorization, and SARA: Strategic and Collaborative Alliances**
Wanda Nitsch, Vice-Chair, Distance Education Accrediting Commission, Retired President, University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences – Moderator
Alexander Nally, Assistant General Counsel and SARA State Portal Entity, Massachusetts Department of Higher Education
Sonny Ramaswamy, President, Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities
Joseph Vibert, Executive Director, Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors
Gloria Niles, Director of Distance Education & Coordinator, Office of Professional Development and Academic Support (OPDAS), University of Hawai'i–West O'ahu
John Stanley, Director of Institutional Research, University of Hawai'i–West O'ahu
Through this moderated panel of accreditors, a SARA State Portal Entity, and institutional representatives, participants will consider a variety of approaches and perspectives for assuring quality, continuous improvement, and compliance in distance education. The panel will discuss opportunities to build strategic institutional teams to help collaborate and streamline this important work. Participants will also have access to a planning tool to help facilitate team-building and ongoing team coordination for such collaborative alliances at their own institutions.
- 3:30 pm** **Concluding Remarks & Adjourn**