



**National Council for
State Authorization
Reciprocity Agreements**

MHEC • NEBHE • SREB • WICHE

SPE Advisory Committee Agenda April 7, 2025 - 10-11:15 am MT

Attendees:

SPEs: Kate, Sean, Nick, Alana, Alicia, Katie, Paige, Alicia

Compact Staff: Shelley, Charlotte

NC-SARA Staff Present: Emilie, Angela

I. Welcome – Emilie

II. SARA Student Complaints – Angela

In June 2025 (likely 17th or 18th), NC-SARA will host the annual SPE Workshop. The chosen topic will be on SARA student complaints. The topic was identified through feedback received from SPE surveys (annual and conference), conversations during RSC meetings and with Regional SARA teams. The SPE only session will be designed to allow for lengthy breakout discussions led by members of the SARA Complaints Working Group, followed by time for each group to report out. A portion of time may also be earmarked for relevant updates to support SPE work.

Kate (also a member of the SARA Complaints Working Group) shared that the group is looking to gather more data and feedback relative to complaints to help inform their work. They would like to be better informed about why some states do not have any student complaints and be able to demonstrate the work SPEs are doing to assist students with resolving their complaints with institutions.

Possible breakout questions:

- 1) When a complaint received by one SPE needs to be shared with another SPE what is the appropriate level of information to share and in what format? (Alicia)
- 2) How will feedback from institutions inform the work that the Complaints committee is doing? (Alana)
- 3) What are the minimum requirements other SPEs expect institutions to have on their website relative to complaints? (i.e. number of clicks to locate info) (Sean)

III. SARA State Meeting Resource – Kate, Sean & Nick

SPEs have requested assistance with planning State Meetings. As a solution, a small sub-group has agreed to collect resources that will be compiled into a State Meeting Resource Guide. To begin gathering information from SPEs, Kate drafted a survey that asks about size and scope of the meetings, meeting planning templates (ie agenda, budgets), whether someone is willing to serve as a “mentor” or sounding board for other SPEs, etc. Sean is willing to make the survey electronic and Nick has agreed to collect and compile any sample templates that are shared.

Feedback from the committee following a review of the survey:

- include a way for respondents to list contact information for organizations that they have partnered with or invited to speak during the state meeting
- use the RSC meeting and RSC newsletters to promote completion of the survey once released
- ask the compact directors and coordinators to share any checklists or tools they use when planning RSC meetings
- consider having the guide feature a section on logistic versus one on content (program/agenda)
- develop two letter templates
 - 1: SPEs can give to their upper management to justify the need for state meetings
 - 2: SPEs to give to institutions to explain the importance of attending the meeting

IV. 2025 SPE Annual Conference – Angela

-Instead of asking SPEs to submit session proposals:

- 1- ask SPEs to email any topic ideas they would like to see during the conference
- 2- provide a list of the current topics and ask if anyone would like to serve on the panel or as part of a presentation on those already identified topics

-Aaron Lacey will be given 90 minutes for his presentation; suggestion that the session be broken into two parts (with a break in between to allow people time to digest the information and come back with their questions).

-Keep the awards and recognition program

-Include Jeopardy type format with NC-SARA related questions during Game Night (Kahoot is also a good tool to help facilitate a trivia game)

-For the session on “AI in Higher Education”, ensure it addresses how SPEs can use AI to more efficiently do their jobs

-Pat and Shelley are willing to co-host in Molly’s absence

-feedback from W-SARA is that people want more time to have discussion and workshop topics (would appreciate the ability to work through hypothetical scenarios) (Lanna raised the idea, Shelley will research context)

V. Revisiting Committee Membership Guidelines – Emilie

The Committee membership guidelines are reviewed annually. This year the agreed upon changes allowed for a “seat” designated for the SPE representing the host state of the current year’s conference & increased number of opportunities for newer SPEs from each region (1 each)

VI. Other Items – All

Tuesday Topic debrief: The general consensus is that the Tuesday Topic format was well received. People share their appreciation for having more time on single subjects, making it easier to digest and ample time for question & answer segments.

Perhaps there are topics that will emerge from the SPE conference that will be good Tuesday Topics for next fall.

VII. Next Steps & Adjourn – Emilie

Remaining 2025 SPE Advisory Committee Meetings:

- Monday, June, 9 from 11 am - 12:15 pm MT
 - Potential meeting topics: SPE Conference Agenda, SPE Wishlist Items
- Monday, August, 11 from 11 am - 12:15 pm MT
- Monday, October, 27 from 11 am - 12:15 pm MT
- Monday, December, 15 from 11 am - 12:15 pm MT

Zoom meeting information for all 2025 occurrences:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://nc-sara.zoom.us/j/81705742977?pwd=wp8Tw9w0rixAtikl9g5TDbsw4mihXZ.1>

Meeting ID: 817 0574 2977

Passcode: 386302

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