Houston, Texas

Downtown Houston continues to evolve as a bustling business, theater, and entertainment district. It is home to four professional sports teams, eight performing arts companies, and a wide selection of restaurants and nightlife. Traveling to Houston has never been easier. The city's two major commercial airports, Bush Intercontinental (IAH) and William P. Hobby (HOU), are both just a short commute from downtown.

For additional information, visit www.visithoustontexas.com

About the Hotel

Located in the heart of downtown Houston, the Hilton Americas-Houston hotel, the city's largest hotel, offers guests the unbeatable combination of the best location, plus quick and easy access to a variety of shopping and entertainment venues. Just across the street from the hotel is Toyota Center, home of the NBA Houston Rockets and the AHL Houston Aeros, plus concerts and various other events. Minute Maid Park, home of the MLB Houston Astros, is only a leisurely, scenic walk away through Discovery Green, Houston's newest 12-acre entertainment park. Reliant Stadium, home of the NFL Houston Texans, and Reliant Park, Reliant Center, and Reliant Arena & Reliant Astrodome are all quickly and easily reached from the hotel via the MetroRail light-rail system. In addition, the hotel is directly connected to Houston's George R. Brown Convention Center via two indoor sky bridges, and only minutes away from the Bayou City Place entertainment district.

For more information, visit www.americashouston.hilton.com

Commission on Colleges
Southern Association of
Colleges and Schools
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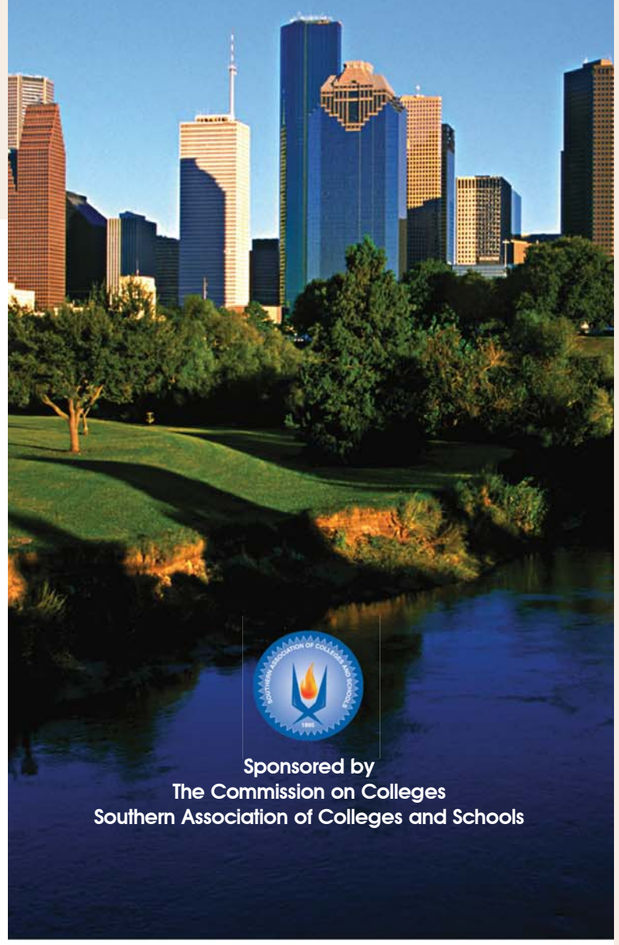
Announcing

THE INSTITUTE ON QUALITY ENHANCEMENT AND ACCREDITATION

Hilton Americas
Houston, Texas

July 19-22, 2009



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The Commission on Colleges
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Overview

The Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools will conduct a three-day Summer Institute in Houston, Texas, July 19-22, 2009, to discuss successful assessment practices and to emphasize quality enhancement initiatives related to improving student learning. In addition to plenary sessions, the Institute will feature campus-based programs at a variety of institutions, small-group discussions, and frequent networking opportunities. The Institute will be designed especially for teams of faculty, Leadership Team members, Accreditation Liaisons, chief executive/academic officers, and others who are interested in maintaining a culture of continuous improvement at their institutions.

Major topics to be addressed include:

- Research on student achievement and motivation in postsecondary education
- Programs to enhance student learning through the implementation of quality enhancement initiatives
- Assessment resources and tools to improve institutional practices
- Student learning styles and changing instructional modalities in higher education
- Effective ways to assess performance in relation to institutional mission

TENTATIVE PROGRAM

Sunday, July 19, 2009

3:00 p.m. Check-in *(advance registration required)*
5:00 p.m. Opening session
Greetings, introductions, and goals of the Institute
Speaker: **Dr. Trudy W. Banta**
Professor of Higher Education and Senior Advisor to the Chancellor for Academic Planning and Evaluation, Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis, IN
Topic: "Designing Effective Assessment"
6:30 p.m. Reception

Monday, July 20, 2009

7:30 a.m. Check-in *(advance registration required)*
7:30 a.m. Continental breakfast
8:30 a.m.
Speaker: **Dr. Jane V. Wellman**
Executive Director, The Delta Project on Postsecondary Costs, Productivity and Accountability, Washington, D.C.
Topic: "Access, Degree Attainment, and College Costs"
10:30 a.m. Breakout groups
12:00 Noon Networking luncheon
1:30 p.m.
Speaker: **Dr. George D. Kuh**
Chancellor's Professor of Higher Education and Director, Center for Postsecondary Research; Founder, National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE), Indiana University, Bloomington, IN
Topic: "The National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment"
3:30 p.m. Breakout groups
5:00 p.m. Day 1 ends

Tuesday, July 21, 2009

7:30 a.m. Continental breakfast
8:30 a.m.
Speaker: **Dr. Mark L. Taylor**
College professor and academic administrator, medical administrator and clinical psychotherapist, Little Rock, AR
Topic: "Teaching Today's Learners"
10:30 a.m. Breakout groups
12:00 Noon Networking luncheon
1:30 p.m.
Panel: QEP Directors and Evaluators
Topic: "Developing a Vision for the Quality Enhancement Plan"
3:30 p.m. Breakout groups
5:00 p.m. Day 2 ends

Wednesday, July 22, 2009

7:30 a.m. Continental breakfast
8:30 a.m.
Speaker: **Dr. Michael S. Johnson**
Vice President, Commission on Colleges, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Decatur, GA
Topic: "The Fifth-Year Report"
10:30 a.m. Closing panel: "Questions and Answers on the QEP"
11:30 a.m. Wrap-up and evaluation

About the Speakers (in alphabetical order)

Trudy W. Banta is a professor of higher education and senior advisor to the Chancellor for Academic Planning and Evaluation at Indiana University-Perdue University in Indianapolis. She has received seven national awards for her work and has consulted with faculty and administrators in 46 states, Costa Rica, Puerto Rico, South Africa, and the United Arab Emirates on the topic of outcomes assessment. She has addressed this topic at national conferences in Canada, China, France, Germany, Spain, and Scotland. Dr. Banta has developed and coordinated 21 national assessment conferences in the United States and 15 international conferences held in Australia, Austria, England, Finland, Germany, Hong Kong, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Scotland, South Africa, and the United States. She has written or edited 15 published volumes on assessment, contributed 26 chapters to other published works, and written more than 200 articles and reports. Dr. Banta is the founding editor of *Assessment Update*, a bimonthly periodical published since 1989 by Jossey-Bass and winner of a national award for overall excellence in 2003.

Michael S. Johnson was named Vice President of the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools in 2005. In this position, he serves as the staff representative for approximately 100 colleges and universities in the 11-state SACS region. Prior to joining SACS-COC, Dr. Johnson served as chair and member on numerous review committees. From 1985 to 2005, he served in several capacities at Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama, including professor of economics, director of the MBA program, chair of the division of business and management, the elected chair of the faculty assembly, chair of the rank and tenure committee, and for four years as associate vice president for academic affairs. Duties in the latter role included oversight of campus institutional effectiveness and institutional research efforts, SACS Accreditation Liaison, chair of the graduate council, budget and enrollment forecasting, and work on the college's Compliance Certification for reaffirmation. Before joining Spring Hill College, Dr. Johnson held faculty positions at the University of New Orleans and at Cornell University.

George D. Kuh is Chancellor's Professor of Higher Education at Indiana University in Bloomington, director of the Center for Postsecondary Research, and founding director of the widely used National Survey of Student Engagement and related surveys for faculty and law school students as well as the College Student Experiences Questionnaire project. His research focuses on assessing undergraduate student learning and personal development, campus cultures, and the institutional conditions that foster student learning. Among his more than 300 publications are 21 books and monographs, including *Student Success in College* (2005), *Student Learning Outside the Classroom* (1994), *Involving Colleges* (1991), and *The Invisible Tapestry: Culture in American Colleges and Universities* (1988). A past president of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Dr. Kuh was honored with the association's prestigious Research Achievement Award. His work has been recognized with numerous other awards, including the Lifetime Achievement Award and the Contribution to Knowledge Award from the American College Personnel Association, the Sidney Suslow Research Award from the Association of Institutional Research, the Academic Leadership Award from the Council of Independent Colleges, and the Virginia B. Smith Innovative Leadership Award. In 2001 he received Indiana University's Tracy Sonneborn Award for distinguished research and teaching.

Mark L. Taylor is a nationally recognized educator, speaker, and consultant dedicated to helping colleges and universities better understand and serve students for learning, development, persistence, and successful integration into the college world. He also works with businesses and organizations to better manage the multigenerational workplace, and to successfully bring younger workers into productive roles. Building on more than 25 years of experience in higher education and management, Taylor has worked with more than 150 schools in 38 states, made presentations at state, regional and national events, and consulted with business clients such as 20th Century Fox, Wal-Mart, the University of Tennessee Hospital, and the U.S. Army. He was most recently the director of guidance services at Arkansas State University at Beebe. Taylor left that position to continue his research and develop programs to improve educational services to Generation NeXt, other students, and to assist managers in the workplace. He has worked as a college professor and an academic administrator, a medical administrator, and a clinical psychotherapist. Dr. Taylor's eye-opening perspectives, grounded in data and literature, along with his practical suggestions and humorous presentation style have made him a popular speaker at schools, colleges, and professional organizations.

Jane V. Wellman is widely recognized for her work in public policy and higher education, at both the state and federal levels, with particular expertise in state fiscal policy, cost analysis, strategic planning, state and federal regulation of higher education, accountability metrics and performance reporting, and quality control, including accreditation. She serves as executive director of the Delta Project on Postsecondary Costs, Productivity and Accountability, and is a member of the Association of Governing Boards Consulting Services. Dr. Wellman has been a senior associate with the Institute for Higher Education Policy in Washington, D.C. In addition to her research and writing, Wellman consults regularly with institutions, states, and countries on different aspects of higher education policy. She is consulting editor to the Association of Governing Boards' publication *Trusteeship*, a member of the editorial advisory committee to the American Council on Education's *The Presidency*, and a Campus Compact Engaged Scholar. She has served as vice president for government relations with the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, the deputy director of the California Postsecondary Education Commission, and the staff director of the Ways and Means Committee in the California State Legislature. Dr. Wellman began her career in higher education finance and planning in the University of California, where she worked in the statewide budget office and on the Berkeley campus in the Center for Research in Management Sciences.

Thanks to www.VisitHouston.TExas.com and photographer Jim Oliver for use of the cover photograph.

COMMISSION ON COLLEGES
SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS

Institute on Quality Enhancement and Accreditation

Register early . . . spaces are limited!

REGISTRATION
(www.sacscoc.org/institute.asp)

The fee for the Institute is $750 per person. This fee includes access to all materials, session breaks, three continental breakfasts, two buffet luncheons, and a reception. Discounts of $50 per person are available for teams of three or more from the same institution (registration and fees must be submitted at the same time). Participants are responsible for their own travel expenses.

Individuals who arrive early can participate in pre-institute activities, including a trip to Space Center Houston or a visit to The Galleria. Attendees can register guests to join them for these optional activities. A complimentary Substantive Change workshop will be presented as a post-institute activity.

Attendance is limited and is guaranteed by the receipt of payment at the time of registration. Priority will be given to those persons who have never attended a SACS summer institute. Participants can register online and make payment by credit card (preferred), check, or money order payable to SACS-COC. If paying by check or money order, mail a copy of your confirmation receipt with payment to:

SACS-COC Summer Institute
1866 Southern Lane * Decatur, GA 30033
Fax: (404) 679-4558

Questions regarding the Institute should be directed to institute@sacscoc.org

CANCELLATIONS/REFUNDS

Participants who register and are unable to attend the Institute may:

- Request a refund of all fees paid, less a $50 processing fee on or before June 12, 2009
- Request a refund of all fees paid, less a $100 processing fee after June 12, 2009 and before June 26, 2009
- Substitute a colleague from his or her institution at no cost on or before June 26, 2009

After June 26, 2009, all fees are nonrefundable. Cancellations, substitutions, and requests for refunds must be submitted in writing and received no later than Friday, June 26, 2009. Refunds will be processed after the Institute.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS
(www.sacscoc.org/institute.asp)

The standard room rate is $145 per night for single/double, $170 for triple, and $195 for quad occupancy. This rate will be available two days prior to and following the Institute based on hotel availability. All reservations must be accompanied by a first night's room deposit or guaranteed with a major credit card. Hotel reservations must be made by Friday, June 26, 2009, in order to receive the group rate. Check-in time is 3:00 p.m. and check-out time is 12:00 noon.

For additional information, please go to www.sacscoc.org/institute.asp to review Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). SACS reserve the right to close registration when the hotel's capacity has been reached.