News Release – May 8, 2013

LAWRENCE, Kan. -- David Boardman, editor of The Seattle Times, was elected president of the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (ACEJMC) at the Council’s May 3 meeting in Phoenix.

Boardman’s term will begin in September 2014. He will be president of the American Society of News Editors next year and will be unable to serve two concurrent presidencies.

Peter Bhatia, editor and vice president of The Oregonian and current Council president, will continue as president.

The Council made 19 accrediting decisions. The department of mass communication at Qatar University in Doha, the department of tele-radial communication at the University of Puerto Rico Arecibo and the department of communication and journalism at Shippensburg University received initial accreditation of their undergraduate programs.

The Council elected two new members to three-year terms on its Accrediting Committee, and one new member to a one-year unexpired term. The Council also re-elected two members to three-year terms.

The new members are Africa Price, executive editor of The Times in Shreveport, La., and Andy Alexander, former Washington Post ombudsman and longtime Cox Newspapers executive. Kathryn Christensen, professor of practice at the College of Journalism and Mass Communications at the University of Nebraska, was elected to fill the one-year unexpired term of Phil Dixon, who resigned.

Trevor Brown, dean and professor emeritus at the School of Journalism, Indiana University, and John Paluszek, senior counsel at Ketchum in New York City, were re-elected to the Committee.

The Council now accredits 111 schools in the United States and outside the country. ACEJMC conducts voluntary reviews for schools with professional journalism and mass communications programs.

The undergraduate program at the Department of Communication at East Tennessee State University was denied accreditation.
The undergraduate programs at the following schools were removed from provisional reaccreditation and received full reaccreditation:

School of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Iowa.

Department of Mass Media at Southeast Missouri State University.

Journalism and Mass Communication program at University of Colorado

Department of Mass Communications and Journalism, Norfolk State University

Department of Mass Communications at St. Cloud State University

The department of communication and journalism at Shippensburg University was removed from provisional accreditation and received accreditation.

The graduate program at the University of Colorado was removed from provisional reaccreditation and received full reaccreditation.

The department of journalism and mass communication at Abilene Christian University received provisional reaccreditation for its undergraduate program.

The Graduate School at Columbia University was reaccredited.

The following schools received reaccreditation for their undergraduate programs:

E. W. Scripps School of Journalism at Ohio University

College of Communications at Pennsylvania State University

Department of Mass Communications at Savannah State University

College of Media, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Department of Journalism at University of Memphis

School of Journalism and Mass Communication at University of Minnesota

Department of Journalism and Mass Communications at Washington Lee University

The School of Mass Communications at the University of South Florida let its accreditation lapse.

The Council’s fall meeting will be Friday, Aug. 23, in Chicago at the Westin Hotel on Michigan Avenue. For additional information about Council and activities, contact Susanne Shaw, executive director, 785 864-3986 or email sshaw@ku.edu.