News Release -- May 2, 2012

LAURENCE, Kan. -- The Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (ACEJMC) made 25 accrediting decisions at its April 27-28 meeting in Arlington, Va. Five schools had both undergraduate and graduate programs reviewed.

The School of Communication at the University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras campus received initial accreditation of its undergraduate program.

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

The new members are Jennifer Sizemore, vice president and editor-in-chief at MSNBC Digital Network and executive producer of NBC News; Raul Ramirez, executive director for news and public affairs at KQED Public Radio in San Francisco; Marie Hardin, associate professor and associate dean, College of Communications at Pennsylvania State University; and Brad Rawlins, dean designate of the College of Communications at Arkansas State University.

Jan Slater, interim dean of the College of Media and professor of advertising at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, was re-elected to a three-year term. John Paluszek, senior counsel at Ketchum, was elected to fill the one-year unexpired term of Ron Culp, Culp and Company, who resigned.

Will Norton, dean of the Meek School of Journalism and New Media at the University of Mississippi, was elected as chair of the Accrediting Committee, and Chris Callahan, dean of the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Arizona State University, was elected Committee vice chair. Both were re-elected to the Committee for three-year terms.

The Council now accredits 110 schools in the United States and outside the country. ACEJMC conducts voluntary reviews for schools with professional journalism and mass communications programs.
The undergraduate programs at the following schools were removed from provisional reaccreditation and received full reaccreditation:

-- Department of Journalism, University of Alaska Fairbanks
-- Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, North Carolina A&T State University
-- Department of Journalism, University of Wisconsin Oshkosh

The following received provisional reaccreditation of their undergraduate programs:

-- Department of Communication and Journalism, Auburn University
-- Department of Mass Communication, Southern University

The graduate program at Southern University was denied reaccreditation.

The Department of Journalism and Mass Communication at South Dakota State University received provisional accreditation of its graduate program.

The Graduate School of Journalism at the University of California at Berkeley was reaccredited.

The graduate program in the School of Communications at Elon University received initial accreditation.

The Council also reaccredited the undergraduate and graduate programs at the following schools:

-- College of Journalism and Communications, University of Florida
-- Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute, New York University

The following schools received reaccreditation of their undergraduate programs:

-- School of Communications, Elon University
-- School of Journalism, University of Arizona
-- School of Journalism, University of Montana
-- School of Journalism and Communication, University of Oregon
-- School of Mass Communications, Virginia Commonwealth University
-- Department of Mass Communication, Nicholls State University
-- Department of Communication, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
-- Henry W. Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Georgia
-- Department of Journalism, Eastern Illinois University
-- Division of Journalism, Florida A&M University
-- Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, South Dakota State University
News release

The Accrediting Council’s fall meeting will be Friday, Aug. 24, in Chicago at the Westin Hotel on Michigan Avenue. The Council also will have a one-day workshop on Thursday, Aug. 23, in Chicago at the Westin Hotel for new school administrators and others interested in learning more about how to prepare a self-study and plan for a site visit.

For additional information about Council meetings and activities, contact Susanne Shaw, executive director, 784 864-3986 or email sshaw@ku.edu.

The next page has a summary of decisions.
2012 Accrediting Council Decisions

Undergraduate programs removed from provisional and reaccredited:
University of Alaska, Fairbanks
North Carolina A&T
University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh

Provisional reaccreditation of an undergraduate program:
Southern University – noncompliances: Standard 4 and Standard 5
Auburn University – noncompliances: Standard 2 and Standard 6

Provisional accreditation of a graduate program:
South Dakota State University – noncompliances: Standard 2 and Standard 9

Denial of reaccreditation of a graduate program:
Southern University – noncompliances: Standard 4, Standard 5 and Standard 9

Receiving initial accreditation:
University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras, undergraduate program – noncompliance: Standard 9
Elon University, graduate program – compliance with all standards

Reaccredited undergraduate programs:
South Dakota State University – noncompliance: Standard 9
University of Arizona – noncompliance: Standard 9
University of Montana – noncompliance: Standard 3
New York University – compliance with all standards
University of Oregon – noncompliance: Standard 9
Virginia Commonwealth University – noncompliance: Standard 7
Eastern Illinois University – compliance with all standards
Elon University – compliance with all standards
Florida A&M University – compliance with all standards
University of Florida – compliance with all standards
University of Georgia – compliance with all standards
University of Louisiana at Lafayette – compliance with all standards
Nicholls State University – compliance with all standards

Reaccredited graduate programs:
University of California at Berkeley – noncompliance: Standard 9
New York University – noncompliance: Standard 9
University of Florida – compliance with all standards