



COMMENTS ON DENIAL OF APPEAL

September 14, 2018

Virginia College is profoundly disappointed in the August 31, 2018, decision by the ACCET Appeals Panel to affirm the ACCET Commission's May 1, 2018, decision. The College provided voluminous documentation to the Appeals Panel to demonstrate why the May 1 decision was improper, inaccurate, and inconsistent with ACCET's own policies, federal recognition regulations and the fundamental tenets of due process. The College believes that ACCET made substantive and procedural errors throughout its review that resulted in an unjust decision.

ACCET could have exhibited more flexibility in working with institutions like Virginia College that were forced to undertake a sudden and tightly compressed effort to obtain alternate accreditation due to the unanticipated decision by the federal government to remove the recognition of their accreditor. Virginia College had designed its policies and procedures to comply with the requirements of its longtime accreditor, and any real compliance deficiencies identified by the Commission with regard to the ACCET standards could have been corrected with a bit more time. Virginia College remains accredited by a recognized accreditor and committed to supporting its students, and the decision of the ACCET Appeals Panel, however unfortunate, does not change that.