Throughout my first 30 days as ACCET’s Executive Director, I have been afforded with meaningful opportunities to engage in conversations with the higher education community; to hear directly from ACCET-accredited members; to field questions from reporters, think-tanks, and policy makers; to share best practices with ACCET’s regulatory partners at the state and federal level; and to work closely with the staff and Commission on advancing a number of ACCET’s strategic initiatives.

What is clear to me based on this ongoing dialogue is that moving forward, ACCET must:

1. Strive to be a more transparent organization that showcases the critical role that accreditation serves in enhancing educational quality, and
2. Continuously support our community by offering a diverse array of professional development opportunities that enhance our members’ ability to provide high quality training and support services to students.

The entire organization here at ACCET is committed to these efforts, and is working collaboratively to provide a pathway for increased connectivity with our constituents, including:

**July 22, 2021 / Coffee with Chris: A Conversation with the Executive Director**

Re-engage with ACCET’s *Partnership for Quality* by [registering](#) for a newly developed quarterly Virtual Member Forum at 2 PM EST on July 22nd facilitated by ACCET’s Executive Director, Christopher Lambert. During this forum, members will have the opportunity to hear directly from ACCET on a number of new initiatives, activities, and events that are in development; engage in a dialogue regarding the critical role that accreditation serves in assuring educational quality; and ask questions of, and share ideas with, ACCET’s Executive Director.

Participants are encouraged to ask any question that they might have in advance by sending an email to chris@accet.org on or before July 15, 2021.

- [Click here to register](#)

(BYOC: Bring Your Own Coffee)
August 13, 2021 Virtual Faculty Symposium (VFS)

Based on the overwhelming response from the 2020 Virtual Faculty Symposium, on August 13, 2021, ACCET is pleased to once again facilitate a day of faculty professional development. This virtual training event is available at no expense to the ACCET Community and includes a diverse array of dynamic and innovative sessions. Register today for the 2021 VFS and get ready to engage and learn! Sessions include:

Building a Community of English Language Learners
11:00 am - 12:00 pm
During this session, panelists from the ACCET community will share classroom management best practices that have been proven to be successful in creating a culture of care when engaging with non-native speakers engaged in English language learning.

Establishing Cultural Awareness and Balancing Interpersonal Relationships with International Students
12:15 pm – 1:15 pm
Join a panel of experienced instructors from ACCET-accredited Intensive English Programs who will share strategies, techniques, and practical advice to create and sustain a positive learning environment and which have proven to be effective when serving an increasingly diverse student population in the multi-cultural classroom.

Embracing the New Normal
1:30PM – 2:30PM
During this thought-provoking session, panelists will give their perspective on emerging trends and will discuss how the postsecondary education landscape has already, and will continue to, transform in meaningful and significant ways post-pandemic.

Increasing Academic Integrity Through Creative Assessment Tools
2:45 PM – 3:45 PM
During this session, panelists will discuss creative assessment tools that can be used to increase student involvement, build character and confidence, and ensure academic integrity within a virtual learning environment.
Best Practices for Online Learning
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM
During this session, panelists will share best practices for adapting to hybrid and online learning while keeping students engaged in lab or simulation classes. Moreover, panelists will share how, keeping health and safety as a priority during the pandemic, they have continued to offer community resources as enhancements to program offerings including clinicals, externships, field trips, and guest speakers.

Register for the 2021 VFS Today!

2021 ACCET Annual Conference: Together Towards Tomorrow
November 3-5, 2021

Save the Date!
Finally, while ACCET fully intends to continue to leverage technology to remain connected to the community we serve through webinars and virtual workshops, we also recognize the value of reconnecting face-to-face when opportunities present themselves. I can think of no better opportunity to reconnect with the membership than the 2021 Annual Conference. Join ACCET from November 3-5, 2021 at the Green Valley Ranch in Las Vegas, Nevada for the 2021 Annual Conference, Together Towards Tomorrow. During this membership driven event, the ACCET community will have a unique opportunity to come together in an inviting social setting to share perspectives, ideas, and proven best practices; to hear from experts and organizations on the latest trends and innovations; and learn how we can all better support students and one another as part of ACCET’s Partnership for Quality.

Requests for Session Proposals / Exhibitor Prospectus Coming in July 2021.

On behalf of the professional staff here at ACCET, I look forward to these opportunities to continue to engage with our members as we collectively strive to move forward towards a better tomorrow.

best,

chris