



State of Wisconsin / Educational Approval Board

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MEDIA ALERT

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EAB to Host Annual Approved Schools Conference

Madison – On November 10, the Educational Approval Board (EAB) will host its annual approved school's conference at the Sheraton Madison Hotel. The conference provides an opportunity for EAB staff, school officials and other interested persons to collaboratively discuss regulatory issues affecting proprietary schools. The focus of this year's conference is on Student Outcomes and Ethics.

Denis Collins, Ph.D., an associate professor of business at Edgewood College, Madison, Wisconsin, will deliver the keynote address. In his address, "The Role Ethics Plays in Life and Reporting Results," Dr. Collins will explore the relevance between ethical theory and student outcomes reporting. He will also talk about the important lessons learned from the Enron scandal and how the resulting increase in corporate accountability is similar to what is happening in higher education.

According to David C. Dies, EAB executive secretary, there is increasing interest within higher education – both private and public – of ensuring accountability and transparency. "These issues have been central to the discussions in Congress as they have been debating reauthorization of the Higher Education Act," said Dies. "At the state level, the EAB firmly believes student outcomes data forms the basis for consumer protection and for school accountability. Whenever a prospective student is choosing a school, that consumer should have access to reliable data about who enrolls, who drops out, who graduates, and who finds employment," he added.

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This year's conference highlights how the EAB is attempting to change the nature of its regulatory functions from an oversight model based simply on compliance to one based on school effectiveness and accountability for student results. A copy of the conference agenda is attached.

The EAB is an independent state agency responsible for protecting Wisconsin's consumers by regulating for-profit postsecondary schools; out-of-state, non-profit colleges and universities; and in-state, non-profit institutions incorporated after 1991. The EAB currently oversees 140 schools serving more than 30,000 adults in degree and non-degree programs.

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Note: Dr. Collins will be available for press questions immediately following his presentation.

Attachments: Conference Agenda and Presenter Bios