



2019 WCET/SAN Advisory Group Candidates

You will choose one from the following candidates.

Cheryl Carroll, University of Virginia:

My involvement in distance education/state authorization compliance began at the McIntire School of Commerce at UVA in managing the marketing, admissions and compliance for their non-credit and Executive Education initiatives back in 2013. I learned first-hand the difficulties in wading through the melting pot of regulatory requirements which needed to be met in order to offer online or distance education in various states back in the day when one could count the number of SARA member states on our fingers.

Now as the institutional representative for distance education compliance at UVA, I've lived the complexities of conveying the need and importance of compliance to new and changing leadership, staff and faculty; especially in the schools of education, law, medicine and nursing where there are larger populations of students participating in placements outside of the state of Virginia. I'm currently working through establishing policy and disclosures as well as rolling out systems to track and improve our state authorization program. This work is only effective when I partner with the registrar's office, the general counsel's office, the institutional research office as well as my colleagues in the provost's office in the previously mentioned work as well as implementing data collection that will comprehensively aggregate the data which needs to be reported to SARA annually. My experience in working with a wide variety of stakeholders on various distance education initiatives would make me a good fit for the SAN Advisory Group.

Sarah Cheverton, James Madison University:

Since late 2016, Sarah Cheverton has had the primary responsibility of coordinating all SARA-related activity and other state authorization tasks for James Madison University (JMU). To accomplish the work, she takes the initiative to reach out to key individuals across the University. For example, she established and continues to lead a small State Authorization Workgroup, meets regularly with various staff in the Provost's and Vice-Provosts' offices, and collaborates with the Office of Institutional Research, Information Technology, Financial Aid, academic unit heads, and program coordinators. Leveraging the knowledge and expertise of others, Sarah has helped identify gaps in student and course administration system data, obtain an agreement from Information Technology to add a location field in the student semester check-in form, establish an initial and repeatable process for collecting field placement location data from departments, and begin the research necessary to ensure that JMU's professional licensure programs are in compliance with federal and state regulations. She has also helped keep the Academic Affairs leadership informed and involved as needed in various processes and decisions.

Sarah has taken advantage of SAN services and the growing SAN community to educate herself and stay informed. She attended a Basics workshop in 2018 and will be attending the Advanced Topics workshop in October of this year. She attended the 2017 Virginia SAN Advisory Group meeting and made a brief presentation during the 2018 meeting. And she attended the 2019 NASASPS conference and presented there during the SAN Membership Breakfast. She is active on the SAN listserv and frequently refers to resources on the SAN website. Sarah has met many talented, knowledgeable and generous colleagues through these venues. In fact, after meeting Cheryl Carroll from University of Virginia at the 2018 Virginia SAN Advisory Group meeting, Sarah and Cheryl collaborated on development of the Out-of-State Learning Activity Compliance Organizer and Checklist, a tool designed to help state authorization coordinators organize and keep track of tasks, resources, accomplishments and more.

Sarah enjoys learning how things work and collaborating with others to develop ideas and solutions for operationalizing and communicating simple and complex expectations. She would do her best to be an asset to the team.

Brandie Elliott, University of Missouri-Kansas City:

I entered the world of state authorization in 2013 as the State Authorization Coordinator for the University of Missouri—Kansas City. At the time, the world of state authorization was the wild, wild west. It took a lot of time, research, and a plethora of e-mails, phone calls, and meetings, but the wild west was eventually tamed. Armed with knowledge, facts, and figures, from hours of research and information absorbed from WCET and NASASPS conferences, as well as SAN Coordinator calls, I ensure UMKC continues to remain in compliance with state, NC-SARA, and federal regulations. In 2017, UMKC was awarded the SANSational Award for Institutional Authorization – Notifications and disclosures for institutional state authorizations and compliance status. My current major task is to create a way to painlessly track the location of our distance education students as well as students engaged in learning placements, regardless of modality. I have hosted two MoKanSan (Missouri-Kansas State Authorization Network) State Authorization Summits and published MoKanSan e-newsletters to help spread the wealth of knowledge regarding state authorization.

I would like to be a member of the SAN Advisory Group to offer the aspect of a small university who struggled to overcome obstacles and roadblocks in order to be compliant in state authorization. SAN is a tremendous asset to those navigating the fluid landscape of state authorization. I would like to help contribute to the vast knowledge bank of SAN.

Leeann Fields, UNLV:

It would be an honor to serve you as part of the SAN Advisory Group. I have worked in this area at UNLV just over four years. My role started out working with SARA as approximately 10% of my job in the category of other duties as assigned as part of my leadership role as an Assistant Director for Online Education. Through my leadership efforts, today, UNLV has created The Office of Educational Compliance, where I serve full-time as the Executive Director of this office: <https://www.unlv.edu/provost/ed-compliance>. Upcoming goals are to hire at least another PT

FTE (hopefully FT) and establish an internal SARA advisory board comprised of various stakeholders throughout the campus. I've also been open about mistakes made along the way and sharing that information with you in hopes of saving others costly mistakes: <https://wcef.frontiers.org/2018/10/17/unlv-pays-a-cost-for-not-notifying-students/>, and will continue to support efforts where we can share and learn from one another.

I've been instrumental in working with the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE), which oversees 7 Nevada state higher education institutions and serves as the state portal entity for 9 SARA institutions, to create the Nevada State Authorization Network (NV-SAN), in existence for 1 year now. Our group meets via web-conferencing every 3 months. In addition, UNLV is hosting our 1st NV-SAN face-to-face, day-long workshop on 9/30/2019, with anticipated participation of at least 2 members from each of Nevada's SARA institutions, for an intense day of compliance issues, and a day where we also intend to foster collaboration and support for each other in our institutional roles.

Finally, I've also been working with a great group of people on the SAN Special Interest Team for Professional Licensure and Research Disclosures. We have been meeting virtually over this past year and as a team to create what we hope will be some useful tools, which we will submit to SAN later this year for vetting and distribution to the overall membership: Licensure disclosure checklist, moving disclosure checklist, adverse action disclosure checklist, professional licensure research checklist, and an "other" state agencies research checklist. I am a HUGE supporter of the SAN organization, both the mission and the people. I applaud the SAN efforts to support our day-in/day-out roles in higher education. I'm excited to serve and give back to a group that has supported and given me so much and to play a helpful role in future SAN efforts.

Kimberly Foore, West Virginia University:

[Note: Kimberly was nominated by a colleague]

Kimberly is the Program Director for State Authorization at West Virginia University (WVU). A natural leader, Kimberly has developed sustaining collaborative relationships with university administrative personnel, and federal, state and local regulators. She works with the Assistant Provost for Teaching and Learning to ensure that the University maintains compliance with all federal and state level regulations related to distance learning and field placements.

Kimberly's outstanding ability to problem solve and manage multiple competing priorities is prodigious. She works independently, sets priorities, and always exceeds goals. Her ability to track and manage complex information and convey it using clear, simple language is refreshing. As the resident expert for State Authorization, she has a keen way of breaking down the information so that all stakeholders at WVU have a firm understanding of the rules.

Not only is Kimberly a fantastic part of the WVU Online team, she is also just a good colleague and friend. Kimberly always asks how she can help and goes above and beyond constantly. Most recently, Kimberly received the Rotary "Service Above Self" award. This award is

Rotary's highest honor and is given to individuals who volunteers their time and talents to help others. This award highlights who Kimberly truly is.

Davida Gatlin, Relay Graduate School of Education:

I am new to SAN, having joined about a year ago, but feel like I have found my home and family! I work for a small but complex institution, maintaining state authorization and physical presence in 12 states (and counting), SARA participation for our burgeoning online programs, and approval as an educator preparation provider in 14 states, in addition to program approvals in our home state and for our educator preparation programs. With this broad portfolio, I can bring my interest and expertise in these topics and their intersections to the SAN Advisory Group and will represent the needs and interests of fellow SAN members with individual state authorization, those working in multi-state contexts, online, and in educator preparation.

I am fascinated by the complexity of this work and compelled by its importance in enabling institutions to responsibly and reliably carry out their missions. I am deeply appreciative of the SAN network and resources and wish to contribute to its continued growth and success. I am especially interested in working together to comply with the proposed federal rules regarding licensure disclosures; a task that will require deep research, investment building across departments, and ultimately institutional change. Thank you for considering me for membership and representation!

Kelly Karki, Purdue Global:

I am responding to your request for nominations for the SAN advisory group and would like to nominate myself for the following reasons.

I have experienced working for one of the largest private, for-profit institutions who is a pioneer in an industry where institutions are merging. For the past six years, I am proud to say I have worked for what is formerly known as Kaplan University and is now Purdue University Global. The recent acquisition of Kaplan University by Purdue University has provided me with opportunities to work closely with vendors, legal counsel, and state regulators in a unique context. Prior to, and post-acquisition I have worked to establish processes for obtaining necessary state filings for a newly created institution to ensure ongoing compliance.

I am passionate about my position as a State Regulatory Project Manager and serve as our institution's SARA expert. My strengths and what I could bring to the SAN team include my passion for learning, ability to develop relationships and willingness to dive into any project. As a returning student myself, I represent my institution's mission and believe I will never be done learning, as I know I am always capable of more.

I thank you for your consideration and hope to work with you in the future.

Karen Faison Kellison, Lord Fairfax Community College:

I have served in the education community for 30 years. I am educated as an instructional designer and technologist and have a passion for the use of technology in teaching and learning environments. I taught my first 'online' class in 2000 – when many of the technologies were a struggle. In 2005, I was the initial director of the Blue Ridge Governor's School, which uses video conferencing technologies to connect seven school systems in central Virginia. In 2008, I led the development of one of the first online Master's degree at James Madison University in Virginia. When arriving at Lord Fairfax Community College in 2012, I reviewed course offerings and discovered that several degrees could be completed totally online, but the college was not marketing to this group of potential students. Since that time, LFCC has increased online enrollments and totally online students comprise almost 20% of the student population. Since being promoted to Vice President, I have initiated policy review and revision work to ensure that online students receive equitable services and support for learning.

I am active in the Virginia and SCHEV working group with NC-SARA and have been since the beginning of this work – I would love to be part of a wider advisory group with WCET/SAN. I bring in-depth knowledge and experiences in the realm of policy and student support in online learning. I also have extensive skill in building interactive online learning environments and supporting students who are learning online. I have developed countless workshops and college courses in the topics such as: Online Presence, eLearning Assessment, Design and Development of Digital Media. I believe in the collaboration initiated and supported by WCET/SAN and would like to be a part of the wider conversation.

Casey Kornegay, Clemson University:

Casey is the Senior Academic Compliance Manager at Clemson University (CU). In her current role she manages authorizations for educational activities and programs that occur out-of-state along with management of all collaborative academic agreements and contracts that the university enters.

Prior to South Carolina (SC) becoming an SARA member state, Casey processed state authorization applications with all 50 states to ensure the universities compliance. Once SC became a SARA state, Casey led the effort to ensure approval for CU to become a SARA institution. Casey is responsible for ensuring CU remains compliant with SARA and completes all reporting activities for SARA and licensing agencies.

CU is the only SAN member institution in the state. Casey represents CU at both the SAN Basics and Advanced Topics Workshops. Through her role she advises senior leadership and works with general counsel at CU to bring awareness to regulations and determine actions to ensure the universities compliance. Casey is often called upon to advise those in compliance roles at other institutions within the state. Casey is currently assisting the SC SARA Portal Agency in developing trainings, meetings/conferences, and resources for other SC institutions to aid in their understanding of state authorization requirements.

Casey would like to use this opportunity to utilize her knowledge gained along the way and to bring prospective based on her experience at the institution level to assist current and future SAN members, and to further the growth of SAN.

Ricky LaFosse, University of Michigan:

Greetings! I am the SAN coordinator for the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (U-M). While my office, Academic Innovation, may be best known for open learning experiences, including MOOCs, I previously consulted on distance education compliance/state authorization for Indiana University and its over 120 online degrees and certificates. I have since brought that for-credit experience to bear on the development of U-M's emerging online international degree offerings while continuing to support its portfolio of open learning experiences and learning technologies. I strive to create a culture of compliance that ultimately fosters innovation. Though when I'm not repeating to my more creative colleagues some variation of "I think we can do that; let me check," I can usually be found giving somewhat different guidance to my two-year-old, thrill-seeking daughter.

I believe this perspective and diversity of experience—five years of distance education compliance for two universities with vastly different approaches/models—would enable me to effectively represent the diverse institutions of SAN. In particular, I am interested in mobilizing efforts to grow professional licensure and international authorization resources, recognizing these topics are of particular concern to members and can be better understood/addressed through large-scale collaboration. Thank you for your consideration.

Charlene Lee, East Carolina University:

[Note: Charlene was nominated by a colleague]

Since 2011, Charlene has coordinated and managed the state authorization compliance effort at ECU. Charlene is tasked with staying abreast of changes in state regulations that may affect her campus community. Her effective communication and relationships with state regulators, along with serving as a resource for our Provost, Deans, Program Chairs and others across campus helps to ensure ECU remains in compliance.

Charlene served as a member of the task force to advocate for NC to join SARA. Since 2016, Charlene serves as the SARA coordinator for ECU and handles all compliance matters related to SARA. Charlene demonstrates the power of collaboration as she has served on panels and provided presentations to various SAN groups across the US. Charlene also represents ECU at NASASPS conferences.

In addition, Charlene serves as a mentor to many instructors, nationally and locally within North Carolina. She is called upon by many for advice and counsel with state authorization issues.

With full support of Charlene and administrative leadership at ECU, I nominate Charlene to serve as a member of the SAN Advisory Group to utilize her knowledge and experience to assist others and foster collaborations to help further contribute to the mission of SAN.

Kate Marshall, Texas Christian University:

Kate Marshall is the Director of Distance Learning at Texas Christian University. She has been involved with state authorization work since 2013. Prior to SARA, Kate worked with state boards of education and state professional licensure boards to file authorization applications. She later played a key role in compiling her university's initial SARA application. Currently, she oversees institutional efforts for continued SARA participation, works with programs and university counsel to address concerns associated with licensure and certification, and assesses proposed regulations for their impact to campus operations. Kate has experience engaging with SARA staff, state portal agency staff, and staff at other institutions to seek clarification on state authorization issues and identify best practices.

SAN is a key part of her university's state authorization strategy. As an attendee at SAN sessions and conferences, Kate skillfully translates SAN information into action items that dovetail with the accreditation, employment, and student recruitment goals of various campus stakeholders.

As a member of the SAN Advisory Group, Kate would bring the invaluable perspective of a smaller institution with a focused set of online programs and a very small staff devoted to state authorization. Kate will participate in shared leadership to ensure that SAN continues to fulfill its mission and that its activities reflect the needs of all types of institutions.

Zafer Pirim, IGlobal University:

I would like to be a part of such a great organization not only that I could make contributions but also keep my learning journey through my engagements with such a valuable network. I just received my certified accreditation professional certificate from a national accreditation institution (ACCSC) and I believe there is a lot to share in terms of the regulatory compliance for out-of-state activities of post-secondary institutions.

Beth Ritter-Guth, Northampton Community College:

Beth Ritter-Guth was recently appointed as the Associate Dean of Online Learning & Educational Technology at Northampton Community College in Bethlehem, PA after servicing as the Director of Online Learning, American Honors, and the Innovation Center at Union County College in NJ. As a new active member of SAN, Beth has felt overwhelmed with information and struggled to know "where to start" with SAN issues. As a member of the advisory group, she will work to help new people onboard quickly to SAN issues and compliance requirements. She will help develop tutorials and checklists for new coordinators to aid them as they work through compliance issues.

George Santopietro, Radford University:

Having attended several state level and one national level workshop on SAN, and participated in a mentoring group, I have interacted with the broad variety of university officials from across the country that work on SAN issues. I have also greatly benefited from my discussions with Cheryl and Dan at these events. While we almost all have a wide range of responsibilities, we all share an interest in developing effective methods for ensuring compliance and providing out

of state students with accurate and timely information. With the assistance of SAN, we do not have to do this alone. I would welcome the opportunity to contribute to this cooperative effort as a member of the SAN Advisory Group.

Julie Schifeling, Bradley University:

Julie Schifeling has served as the Credentialing Coordinator at Bradley University for 4 ½ years. During that time she has focused on state authorization, SARA, and compliance with all state regulatory agencies such as Boards of Nursing, Boards of Education and Behavioral Health Boards. She loves the work!

She is also responsible for affiliation agreements for clinical/experiential learning activities for all distance education students in the College of Education and Health Sciences.

Julie's background is in law, advocacy, non-profit leadership, and community outreach/collaboration.

She currently serves as Secretary of the Board of the Community Foundation of Central Illinois where she chaired the committees that created the first proactive, collaborative grant opportunity in the Foundation's history – the Ending Hunger Together grant.

Dr. Rajneesh Sharma, Saint Joseph's University:

Dr. Rajneesh Sharma is a tenured Professor of Finance and the Associate Provost for Assessment, Strategic Planning and Online Education at Saint Joseph's University. He has a bachelor's in mechanical engineering, a master's in business administration and a doctorate in finance. He also holds FRM (Financial Risk Manager) designation. His primary area of research is Investments. He has also done research on gender diversity. He has published more than 30 articles in refereed academic journals. In the past, he has served as Department Chair, Secretary of Faculty Senate, Coordinator of Assurance of Learning, and Director of Trading Room.

Dr. Sharma teaches in the undergraduate and graduate programs in both on-ground and online delivery modalities. He has been teaching online courses since 2010. He has developed online courses and has served as Quality Matters' peer reviewer. As part of his responsibility, he manages the relationship with OPM, chairs the distance education committee, oversees online education, including course development, and is responsible for all matters related to State Authorization. He will be presenting at the Pennsylvania SARA workshop in the Fall semester. Dr. Sharma also serves on advisory boards and is a peer review for Middle States Commission for Higher Education. His strong work ethics, research on gender diversity, experience with increasing profiles of evolving/new formed groups, and ability interact with different constituencies will add value to SAN advisory board.

Laura Storms, University of Texas at El Paso:

Laura Storms is the State Authorization Manager at the University of Texas at El Paso and has been in her position for almost 5 years. She maintained UTEP's authorizations prior to

transitioning to a SARA Member institution, and now is the institution's SARA representative. With the location of UTEP on the US/Mexico and Texas/New Mexico border, she has a unique challenge to serve a student population coming from not only many different locations but also many different cultures. Laura has been a SAN member for 4 years and has appreciated all that SAN has done and would love the opportunity to give back to the community that helps so many individuals with this interesting but challenging work.

Emily Woods, University of Kentucky:

I am extremely passionate about state authorization and I truly appreciate SAN's perseverance in assisting compliance professionals manage complex, multifaceted and ever-changing responsibilities. I've enjoyed collaborating with other compliance professionals through a SAN Special Interest team, SAN events, and other informal networks. I really believe that two (or more!) heads are better than one when it comes to implementing state authorization on a college campus. When I first started in compliance, there was no process in place, and I didn't know where to start. SAN and other colleagues provided resources and encouragement as I built a compliance process on our campus. As a part of the SAN advisory group, I would hope to promote opportunities for professional collaboration, practical resources for creating and maintaining compliance on campus, and professional development for new and experienced compliance professionals.