

Webinar: Tracking Students: Planning, Compliance, and Data Reporting – February 2021

Presenter Biographies:

Marianne Boeke

Dr. Marianne Boeke joined NC-SARA in 2018. As the Senior Director for Research and State Support, she oversees all aspects of data reporting, curates the State Authorization Surveys (The Guide), provides state and regional compact support, and with senior leadership works on policy related issues.

Prior to joining NC-SARA, Marianne served as a Senior Associate at the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS). She worked on a variety of long and short-term projects collaborating with the Aspen Institute, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Lumina Foundation for Education, National Science Foundation (NSF), Strada Education Network, WICHE, and WCET State Authorization Network (SAN). Marianne has also held administrative positions at The American University, the University of Denver, and during the inaugural years of the Western Governors University (WGU). Marianne's work in state authorization began in 2011 when she co-created the SHEEO survey on state authorization. She has presented at numerous national, regional, and state conferences and co-wrote several white papers on a variety of state authorization topics including: "State Authorization and Military Students" and "State Authorization and Non-Credit Courses and Programs."

Marianne holds a Ph.D. in higher education from the University of Denver, a master's degree from The American University, and a bachelor's degree from San Jose State University. Her areas of specialization and interests include: evaluation, qualitative research, accreditation, assessment, post-secondary attainment, technology and costing issues in higher education, competence-based education, state authorization (compliance issues), and federal/state regulations.

Rachel Durrance

Rachel Durrance started her career with Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University as a student assistant with Academic Affairs in 2009. She continued her role with ERAU until 2013, when she graduated with her Bachelor's degree, and was hired for a full-time position within the Academic Affairs department. In 2016, Rachel was promoted to Assistant Director of State Authorizations. In this role, Rachel is responsible for day-to-day management of state authorizations activities and administrative aspects of accreditation. With over 100 campuses in 30 states across the country, Embry-Riddle has one of the most extensive state authorizations operations in the country, and Rachel has been instrumental in supporting the development and implementation of a robust, highly effective process for the university.

Cairesse Grimes

Cairesse Grimes began her state authorization journey as a Graduate Assistant in 2015 and began working as the Office of the Provost Coordinator in 2016 after obtaining my master's degree in Higher Education Administration. Her compliance responsibilities include staying up-to-date on changes in state and federal regulations that may affect our institution, communicating with state regulators, and keeping record of our status with each state. Additionally, Cairesse is responsible for applying for and maintaining authorization across the states. When the task isn't state authorization, she produce responses to faculty data surveys such as IPEDS and the AAUP Faculty Compensation survey, dabble in graphics work for the office, assist with university assessment activities, and support the Office of the Provost in other

miscellaneous ways. Fun fact: woodworking is a newly pursued hobby! Miter, jigsaws, measuring tape, and flat orange pencils are all objects of her happy place!

Bree Meinberg

Bree Meinberg started her career in Germany with U.S. Air Force Youth Services, and the Department of Defense Education Activity. She continued her government service with the Army and Air Force Exchange Service where she worked in Germany, Iraq and Afghanistan before being recruited to Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University's Campus Operations Department in 2013. In 2015, Bree began her role as Associate Director of State Authorizations and in 2018, the university entered the field of Workforce Development and asked Bree and her team to lead those efforts. Bree is responsible for overall oversight of state authorizations, workforce development and accreditation for Embry-Riddle's Worldwide and Online campuses. She has represented the university on various state advisory boards, provided consultation on policy for state regulatory bodies, and has served as a subject matter expert and guest speaker for various organizations.

Michele Starkey

Dr. Michele Starkey is the Associate Provost and Accreditation Liaison Officer at Mount Saint Mary's University in Los Angeles. Dr. Starkey began working at the University in 1997. Prior to her current position, she served as Assistant Provost, and, before that, as co-chair of the Department of Physical Sciences and Mathematics. She earned her doctorate in Educational Leadership and her masters in Mathematics, both from California State University, Long Beach, and has been teaching college-level mathematics for over 15 years. She began working in the area of state authorization and compliance in 2014. Her interests include quantitative literacy, math anxiety, and assessment of student learning outcomes. In her current position, Dr. Starkey has led campus assessment, faculty development, and the MSMU online program, including state authorization. Michele is author or co-author of numerous academic papers with a special emphasis on mathematics education, instruction techniques, assessment, and achievement.

Emily Woods

Emily Woods is the Distance Learning Compliance Coordinator for the University of Kentucky. She has worked with UK Distance Learning for three years after earning her M.S.Ed in Higher Education at the University of Kentucky. She maintains state authorization and related regulatory compliance for several colleges, including the College of Education and the College of Design.

Emily currently serves on the State Authorization Network (SAN) Advisory Board and leads the SAN Special Interest Team for Professional Licensure Disclosures. She recently founded and co-leads the Kentucky State Authorization Network (SAN-KY) and enjoys collaboration with other institutions to discuss and share compliance strategies. Emily lives in Lexington, KY, and enjoys spending time with her best beagle friend, Hansen.

Christina S. Walker

Christina S. Walker, Esq., J.D., (she/her/hers) works at the University of Kentucky where she analyzes law and regulation pertaining to education/educational activities occurring outside of state borders and internationally, while ensuring legal compliance through reconciliation of state and federal law and state board regulations; and developing and overseeing related programmatic and policy initiatives.

As a licensed attorney, Christina provides legal representation in a diverse array of areas including veterans' law. Formerly, she served in the U.S. Army where she led logistical operations and trained personnel while deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Christina has worked in additional roles of government and successfully served as a judicial clerk for the Honorable Judge Pamela R. Goodwine, Kentucky Court of Appeals (5th Appellate District, Division 1).

Currently, Christina is a 3rd year doctoral (Ph.D.) student in the College of Communication and Information, University of Kentucky. Her research intersects pertinent issues of law/regulation, communication and culture.

Jeannie Yockey-Fine

Jeannie Yockey-Fine is General Counsel at NC-SARA. She analyzes federal and state regulations, SARA policies, and professional licensure issues and their impacts on SARA institutions, and related policy conversations.

Jeannie was a Senior State Regulatory Services Specialist with Hogan Lovells, US, LLP prior to joining NC-SARA. During 2014-2018 she was State Regulatory Services Advisor with Cooley, LLP and was Senior Manager, State Regulatory Services at Dow Lohnes from 2011-2013. She assisted her clients with state-related authorizations, NC-SARA applications and related requirements, and state-level professional licensure issues.

Previously she was Licensure Manager/Education Policy Analyst at the Florida Department of Education's Commission for Independent Education overseeing the unit responsible for licensing nearly 1,000 institutions.

Yockey-Fine has given numerous presentations and workshops related to state authorization, professional licensure and regulatory/compliance issues. She has also co-authored papers related to the same.

Jeannie holds B.S. in Journalism and Juris Doctor degrees from the University of Kansas and has been an attorney since 1991.