



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE ADMINISTRATORS  
AND SUPERVISORS OF PRIVATE SCHOOLS

# Working Together: The Importance of Connections Between State Agencies, Licensing Boards, and the Triad.

Sean Seepersad, PhD | Connecticut Office of Higher Education

2024 NASASPS Annual Conference

April 7-10 | Charleston, SC



## About Me

- Division Director, Academic Affairs
- 5 Years as State Regulator
- Rethinking the triad and beyond

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**How long have you been a state regulator?**

ⓘ Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

# Outline



- The Triad and Regulation in CT Higher Education
- The Success of the Triad
- Opportunities for Growth
- Q&A

# The Triad & Regulation in CT Higher Education

# The Triad

## U.S. Department of Education

- Administrative Capability
- Financial Responsibility

## State

*Higher Education and other regulatory bodies*

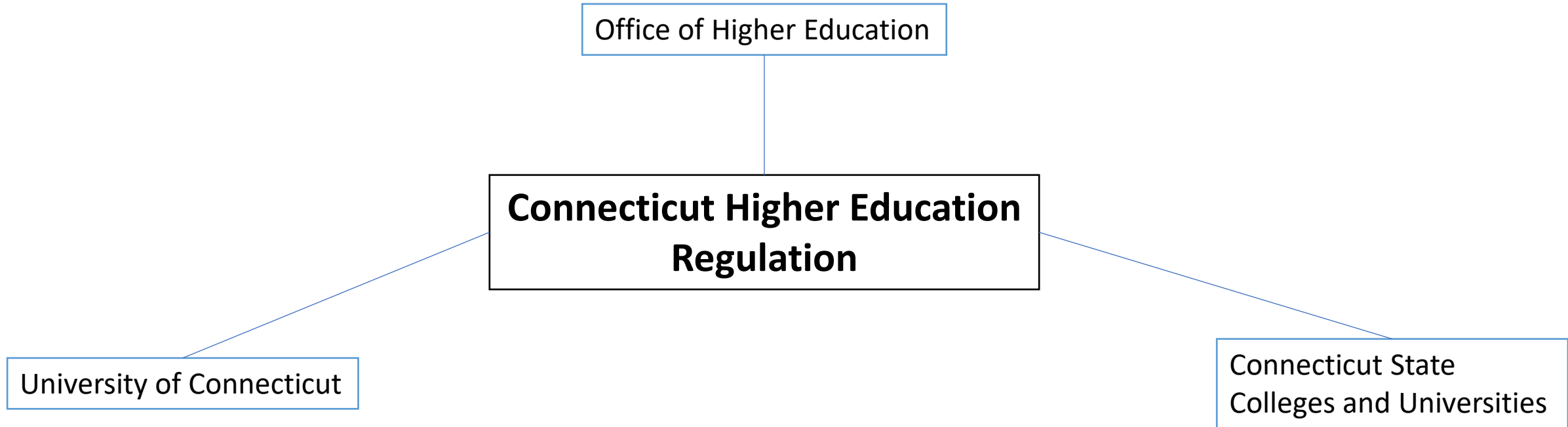
- Consumer Protection
- Authorization

## Accreditation Agencies

*Institutional and Programmatic*

- Institutional Quality
- Program Quality

# Structure of CT HE Regulation



# Review of Institution Programs in CT



Significant Review	No Review
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## Department of Public Health

### Nursing

- Feasibility study
- Curriculum
- Facility and Staffing
- Student Outcomes

### Barber and Cosmetology

- Curriculum

### Eyelash Technician



# Review of Institution Programs in CT



Significant Review	No Review
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## Department of Consumer Protection

Electrician, Plumber, etc.

## Department of Motor Vehicles

Commercial Driver's License

# The Success of the Triad

Challenges with Institutional Accountability and Student Protection

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**How well do you think the Triad is working collectively to hold institutions accountable?**

ⓘ Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

# The Success of the Triad?



November 2019

## The Bermuda Triad

Where Accountability Goes to Die

Clare McCann & Amy Laitinen

# Additional Sources



STATEMENT OF TERRY W. HARTLE  
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT  
AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION

BEFORE THE  
HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR AND PENSIONS COMMITTEE  
OF THE U.S. SENATE  
ON

THE TRIAD: PROMOTING A SYSTEM OF SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

*Thursday, Sept. 19, 2013*

101: HIGHER  
EDUCATION  
AND THE TRIAD



December 2017 | [HIGHERLEARNINGADVOCATES.ORG](https://higherlearningadvocates.org)

# Challenges with Accountability

- U.S. Department of Education
  - Range of sanctions are rarely used and unevenly applied
  - Enforcing violations years after a sanction
  - Staffing capacity and training
  - Federal Responsibility Composite Scores (FRCS)
  - Strengthen protections
  - Strengthen outcomes-based accountability

# Challenges with Accountability

- Accreditation Agencies

- Hold accreditors accountable for fulfilling their responsibilities
- Increase transparency of accreditation documents
- Too much on inputs and not enough on outcomes
- Issue of independence
- Risk based reviews

# Challenges with Accountability

- States

- Require states to do more than “rubber stamp” colleges
- Greater communication
- Staffing issues



# Opportunities for Growth

Working collaboratively to increase accountability

# How do we breakdown the silos



- Where is the organization, group, forum that brings together members of the triad?

# Opportunities for Growth



Us vs. Them

See actions of others in the triad as conflicting.



Hot Potato

Who makes an adverse decision for an institution?



Chicken and Egg

Who approves the institution/program first?



Secret Problem

A serious compliance violation of an institution is not shared.

# Us vs. Them: Removing the Division



- Accreditation and other site visits example
- Sharing information
- Open lines of communication

# Hot Potato: Splitting the Potato



- Crisis meeting example

# Chicken and Egg: Picking One



- Change of ownership example
- Licensure program example

# Secret Problem: The Reveal



- Financial screening example
- Outcome sharing example



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# Questions?

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# Thank you!

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