



NEWSLETTER

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Office of Accreditation and Education Effectiveness

The Office of Accreditation and Education Effectiveness (OAEE) is responsible for overseeing accreditation processes and ensuring the effectiveness of educational programs. Our primary focus is to maintain and enhance the quality of education provided at Baylor College of Medicine.

The Office of Accreditation and Education Effectiveness supports the Baylor College of Medicine education enterprise by:

- Facilitating institutional accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) and monitoring ongoing compliance with SACSCOC principles of accreditation
- Providing support for program-level specialized accreditation
- Coordinating ongoing assessment of educational programs and the college quality enhancement plan (QEP)
- Conducting and reporting the results of academic program reviews
- Conducting general institutional research and data analysis
- Reporting key academic performance metrics to federal, state and professional organizations
- Providing process expertise in the approval of substantial changes
- Managing educational affiliation agreements, observerships and external learners

ACCREDITATION NEWSLETTER

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LCME DCI UPDATES 2026-207

The LCME has released updates to the DCI for the 2026–2027 academic year. Key changes include clarified narrative prompts, updated terminology (e.g., “relaxation space”), revised documentation requirements, and increased attention to technical standards, student safety, and faculty roles. The LCME Glossary is no longer embedded in the DCI and is now available [online](#).

The [Glossary](#) includes all the terms from the “Glossary of Terms for LCME Accreditation Standards and Elements” previously located in various LCME publications.



CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT SUMMIT 2025



At the 2025 Continuous Quality Improvement Summit hosted by Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, OAEE team members Ricky Mercado and June Zhou co-presented “Transforming Student Achievement: Leveraging Power BI Dashboards for Data-Driven Insights and Continuous Improvement.” The session showcased how Baylor College of Medicine (BCM) uses interactive Power BI dashboards to monitor key student achievement metrics—such as graduation rate, retention rate, time to degree, licensing exam pass rates, and job placement outcomes—in alignment with SACSCOC Standard 8.1.

The presentation also demonstrated how disaggregating data by student demographics can help identify gaps among student groups and guide action plans. BCM’s benchmarking approach was shared as well, focusing on comparisons of program offerings, student-to-faculty ratios, and number of completers with peer institutions at the national, regional, and state levels.

Through real examples of Power BI dashboards, the presenters demonstrated strategies for disaggregating data, identifying trends, and implementing continuous improvement—especially in programs that consistently meet or exceed performance thresholds. The presentation concluded with a discussion on best practices for sharing student achievement data, weighing what should be made public versus kept internal. It was noted that clear communication and transparent reporting not only support compliance with SACSCOC 8.1 but also help foster a culture of continuous improvement across programs.

ORTHOTICS & PROSTHETICS SITE VISIT UPDATE

The Baylor College of Medicine Orthotics and Prosthetics Program hosted an onsite review team on March 27th-28th, 2025. The O&P program hosted CAAHEP(Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs). The residency portion of the program successfully renewed accreditation by NCOPE(The National Commission on Orthotic and Prosthetic Education) in February of this year.

During their visit, the site visitors engaged with College leadership, O&P Program faculty and staff, as well as students. Additionally, they held discussions with program administrators, program alumni, and employers of program graduates, while also embarking on a comprehensive tour of the facilities where our students learn and train.

An exit conference was held at the end of the site visit. Early results show that there were no citations found. BCM will receive a final decision after the Council meets. Baylor College of Medicine appreciates Dr. Ashley Mullen's, Associate Professor and Director of the O&P Program, strong leadership throughout the process.



BUILDING EXCELLENCE TOGETHER: OAAE & SACSCOC

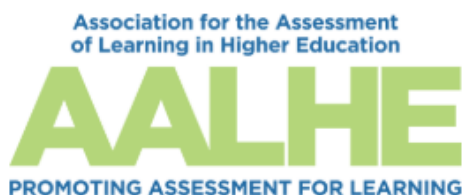
The Office of Accreditation and Education Effectiveness consistently engages in development and actively participates in conferences and workshops to enhance their skills and knowledge base. Recognizing the dynamic nature of their respective fields, team members prioritize staying abreast of the latest methods and best practices. Attending conferences and workshops serves as a valuable platform for networking, sharing insights, and gaining exposure to innovative ideas. Through these experiences, the team not only deepens their expertise but also fosters a culture of continuous learning within Baylor College of Medicine.

- **Caroline Young** attended the SACSCOC Institutional Effectiveness Evaluator Training Workshop held March 14th, 2025.
- **Ricky Mercado** attended the SACSCOC Small College Initiative meeting held in Atlanta, GA from April 7th to 8th, 2024.



OFFICE OF ACCREDITATION AND EDUCATION EFFECTIVENESS IN THE NEWS

We are delighted to bring attention to the “Spotlight on Caroline Young”, a dedicated member of the Association for the Assessment of Learning in Higher Education (AALHE). Caroline’s exceptional contributions and leadership in the field of assessment have significantly advanced our college’s mission. Her journey in higher education assessment is marked by innovation, collaboration, and a steadfast commitment to improving student learning outcomes. Join us in celebrating Caroline’s achievements and learn more about her inspiring work and vision for the future by visiting [here](#).



FROM IDEAS TO IMPACT: PROPOSALS & PUBLICATIONS



Caroline Young with The Office of Accreditation and Education Effectiveness (OAEE) along with Leah Oren-Palmer and Jayne Chirido Taylor of the PA Program are participating in this year’s annual conference for the Association for the Assessment of Learning in Higher Education(AALHE).

They will be presenting “Enhancing Program Effectiveness: Evaluating AI-Generated Action Plans with a Rubric” on Thursday, May, 29, 2025. .

You can find the conference schedule [here](#).

We are thrilled to announce that Caroline Young has successfully published a review in the [Journal of Assessment and Institutional Effectiveness](#).

The review is for an article, titled “Improving Student Learning at Scale: A How-To Guide,” which provides invaluable insights and practical strategies for enhancing student learning outcomes across academic programs.

This accomplishment underscores our commitment to advancing educational standards and effectiveness through scholarly contributions.

OUR MISSION, OUR PURPOSE

Mission: Our mission at Baylor College of Medicine is to provide guidance, support and resources to help faculty and staff create and implement effective changes while ensuring the highest quality of education for our students.

Purpose: Our purpose is to promote academic excellence and innovation through accreditation and education effectiveness. We strive to foster a culture of continuous improvement and to provide resources and support for faculty and staff to develop and implement effective educational programs that prepare students for success.

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