



IMPORTANT NOTICE

To: ABHES-Accredited Institutions and Programs
Federal and State Regulatory Bodies
Interested Parties

From: India Tips, Executive Director

Date: December 23, 2022

Subject: New Commissioner Appointments

ABHES is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Keith Castillo and Dr. Karen Kershenstein to the ABHES Commission.

Mr. Castillo has been appointed to fill the **Distance Education Specialty** seat. His appointment is effective as of December 20, 2022, and his term extends through June 30, 2025.

Mr. Castillo currently works for Charter College as the Senior Instructional Designer Specialist. He has worked in higher education for more than 21 years and has held several positions in distance education. He completed his BA in Sociology with an emphasis in Social Work, and Multiple Subject Credential Program. He also holds an MA in Education Instructional Technology from California State University San Bernardino and is actively working on completing his dissertation towards an Ed.D. in E-Learning from North Central University.

Dr. Kershenstein has been appointed to fill the **Public** seat. Her appointment is effective as of December 20, 2022, and her term extends through June 30, 2024.

Dr. Kershenstein has worked in some aspect of accreditation for more than 30 years. She first worked for the U.S. Department of Education, where she directed the accrediting agency recognition process. After leaving the Department, she started a consulting service for accrediting agencies. To keep current on higher education accreditation practices, she began serving as a public member for various accrediting agencies, including those formerly recognized as regional, a national, and several specialized agencies. Dr. Kershenstein has also conducted numerous observation visits for the Council on Higher Education Accreditation and served on several ABHES Appeal Panels. She holds a Ph.D. in Physics from Georgetown University.

Visit <https://www.abhes.org/board-of-commissioners/> for a current listing of ABHES commissioners.