



DIVISIONAL ACCREDITATION DIRECTOR



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It's hard to believe, but this school year is nearing completion. As I write, I'm in Central Asia having just completed visits to two schools using the *Inspire* protocol. It's always encouraging to see firsthand how accreditation speaks to school growth and improvement. I know of nothing that can propel a school toward being a better school as strongly as accreditation.

All four *Inspire* pilot school team visits have now been completed. Special thanks to these schools and to the team chairpersons and team members who served on these initial international *Inspire* school visits:

Dakar Academy, Senegal
International Christian Academy of Budapest, Hungary
West Nairobi School, Kenya
Pan-American Christian Academy, Brazil

I'd like to share with you three significant lessons learned from these four visits.

- While the *Inspire* protocol is clearer and more streamlined, don't mistake that for being "easier." Yes, the writing expectations are reduced but the writing could be more challenging – and also more beneficial according to the pilot schools. The focus is on an evaluation/analysis of effectiveness – not just compliance. Schools – and then teams – have to dig deeper to be analytical in the writing. What are the challenges and distinctives in each domain? This work reaps more meaningful school growth!
- Toward the end of the team visit, the chairperson will schedule a collaborative meeting with the school leadership. This can be a valuable time for the team and the school to provide feedback and for the team to help the school in the beginning stages of developing the accreditation action plan (formerly called CSIP). But the value of this meeting is directly related to the degree to which the school leadership is prepared to fully engage in collaborative conversation.
- While the focus of the whole *Inspire* protocol is on effectiveness, there are elements of some indicators (including the Standard 11 checklist), that are

geared toward compliance since some basic aspects of accreditation are simply required. But even here, schools should have an eye toward effectiveness.

Congratulations to the following schools that received accreditation at the recent meeting of ACSI's Commission on Accreditation:

Hinkson Christian Academy – Russia – Reaccreditation
Mexico City Christian Academy – Mexico – Initial Accreditation
Metro Delhi International School – India – Reaccreditation
Whitman Academy – Jordan – Initial Accreditation

As a reminder, please email directly to me or Kim (email addresses below) with ANY questions pertaining to accreditation. Contacting any other office at ACSI will just delay a response getting to you. International schools have some unique aspects to accreditation; we are best equipped to answer your questions.

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ACADEMIC SERVICES NEWS



Inspire

ACSI *Inspire* Update

The spring 2023 semester was a busy one for work on [ACSI *Inspire*](#). In January 2023, we released the [Early Education Addendum](#) and supporting documents. Later, we released the [Online Addendum](#) (for schools that meet certain thresholds for online course offerings), and the [International Student Program Addendum](#). Finally, *Inspire* pilot schools have completed their visits, and we are in the process of reviewing the feedback from schools, chairs, and team members. Looking ahead,

ACSI *Inspire* Training

We have completed the introductory *Inspire* training modules for school coordinators (who lead the school's self-study). Those training modules are available here: [Accreditation Training](#). Parts 1 and 2 for chairpersons (who lead the visiting team) and the introductory training for visiting team members will be ready in the near future. Work on the full training, which will be hosted on ACSI's LMS platform, is ongoing.

here is a brief timeline of upcoming elements related to ACSI *Inspire*:

- May 2023 – release of the ACSI *Inspire* Exemplary Addendum
 - Summer 2023 – complete a multi-step review process of ACSI *Inspire* feedback; update documents
 - August 2023 – publish updated *Inspire* documents on the ACSI website
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Christian Philosophy of Education Checklist

Work is ongoing on ACSI's redesigned Christian Philosophy of Education (CPoE) course that will be hosted on [ACSI's professional development platform](#). ACSI's current [CPoE checklist](#) will still be available for at least the next couple of years while we phase in the new option (with an anticipated phase-out date sometime in 2025).

Accreditation Annual Reports

The annual report process for ACSI accreditation will remain much the same this year. Contact your [Divisional Accreditation Team](#) for details. The implementation of a new Certification system, as well as ongoing research on a new Accreditation system, will impact annual reports in future years. As such, we will not make any major changes to the annual reporting process this year.

Accreditation Annual Fee

ACSI will increase the annual accreditation fee this year by approximately 6.5%. This means that the annual accreditation fee for EE-12 schools will increase to \$585, while the fee for standalone Early Education programs will increase to \$350. (Fees for additional programs, such as Exemplary and endorsements, will increase slightly as well). We intend to make future increases based on the rate of inflation each year. This will enable ACSI to continue to serve our schools by offering a high-quality accreditation program.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



If you are interested in the [Flourishing School Instrument](#) developed by ACSI, you may contact research@acsi.org for more information.

Watch for your **Membership Renewal Invoice**. The LDRP and optional state fees will each be invoiced separately.

EVENT CALENDAR



October 1st: Annual Reports Due

Please contact your Accreditation Specialist if you have any questions.

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