# Quality Culture vs. Political Culture: Negotiating Online Higher Education Delivery in Federated States

Nancy K. Parker INQAAHE 2011

#### Overview

- National and Sub-national identities
- Colonial background
- Fiscal Directives
- Changing System Goals
- Reauthorization and rule making in the US
- Competitive pressure in Canada

#### Cooperative Imperative

Even if education is primarily a matter of the regions, higher education, by reason of its costs and the mobility of students and researchers alike is more likely to require some form of federal or inter-regional cooperation (Sweden, 2003, p. 154).

#### **Fast Facts**

#### U.S.A.

Population: 311,075,911

Land mass: 9,629,091 sq km

Sub-territories: 50 states, 5 territories and D.C.

"a nation of states"

#### Canada

Population: 34,278,406

Land mass: 9,976,140 sq km

Political subdivisions: 10 provinces, 3 territories

"pact or compact -the French fact not diminished"

#### Colonial Foundations of H.E

Institution	Colony	Chartered
New College (Harvard)	Massachusetts	1650 (1636 f)
William & Mary	Virginia	1673
Collegiate School (Yale)	Connecticut	1701
College of New Jersey (Princeton)	New Jersey	1746
Academy of Philadelphia	Pennsylvania	1751
King's College (Columbia)	New York	1754
College of the English Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantation (Brown)	Rhode Island	1764
Queen's College (Rutgers)	New Jersey	1766
Dartmouth	New Hampshire	1769

#### US Regional Accreditation Bodies

- Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (est. 1919)
- New England Association of Schools and Colleges (est. 1885)
- North Central Association of Colleges and Schools
- Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges
- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
- Western Association of Schools and Colleges

#### Colonial Foundations Canada

- Seminaire de Quebec 1663 ...chartered as Laval 1852
- King's College (NS) 1789; Dalhousie 1818
- King's College (ON) 1827 later U of T
- Queen's College (ON) 1841

#### Fiscal Directives

- National Research Council 1919
- Veteran's Assistance Plan
- Direct Institutional Grants
- Joint Student Loan Program 1964
- Established Program Financing –Social Union Framework
- Canadian Foundation for Innovation
- Knowledge Infrastructure Program Willingness to spend does not grant power to legislate

#### H.E. Goals in the US

- Jefferson: educated citizenry defense against tyranny
- Shaping Settlement (Land Grants A&Ms)
- Truman Commission 1947: preserving democracy - promoting equality of opportunity
- Nation at Risk: 1980's global competition
- Spelling's Commission 2006: personal economic attainment – labor force development

## Growth and Complexity

#### Title IV Degree Granting Institutions By Control

	1988	1998	2008
Pubic	1582	1681	1676
Private Non-Profit	1478	1695	1629
For Profit	325	672	1101

Adapted from (NCES, 2010-13)

http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d09/tables/dt09\_265.asp

# Fall Enrollment in US Degree granting institutions

	1988	1998	2008
Pubic	10,577,963	11,309,399	13,972,153
<b>Private Non-Profit</b>	2,732,174	3,051,626	3,661,519
For Profit	229,423	430,199	1,469,142

Adapted from (NCES, 2010–13)

http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d09/tables/dt09\_189.asp

#### Reauthorization & Rule making

- 2008 Higher Education Act Re-authorization lengthy negotiations (5 years late & 14 extensions)
- Distance Education has new requirements on verification of student identities
- Rulemaking negotiations to address loan default rates and other concerns
- State regulations reinforced

#### Section 600.9

If an institution is offering postsecondary education though distance or correspondence education to students in a State in which it is not physically located, the institution must meet any State requirements for it to be legally offering postsecondary distance or correspondence education in that State. We are further providing that an institution must be able to document upon request by the Department that it has the applicable State approval.

Amendment to HEA Oct 29, 2009

### Objections to Revised Rule

History shows that existing state and federal regulatory authority over private institutions of higher education, in addition to private legal recourse, actions by accrediting organizations and market mechanisms (consumer and investor choices) is sufficient to penalize those organizations that act outside of the law. Requiring additional state oversight duplicates accreditation, levies additional compliance costs on institutions of higher education, and could potentially compromise their independence. (Coffman, 2010)

#### Reciprocal Recognition

- Western Governor's University 2003 Inter-Regional Accrediting Committee
- Free trade zone? WTO or Interstate commerce?
- Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility
   Agreement (TILMA) -BC & Alberta
- Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission
- Is the price of regulatory compliance the new barrier to entry for new online programs?

#### **Competitive Pressures**

- Diversity new prospect for Canadian regulators
- Pressures from colleges seeking degree granting status
- For profit ventures
- Provincial funding disparities (price war?)
- Lack of coherence and large impacts from disreputable operators - Kingston group example

# Questions?

nancyp@athabascau.ca

