

## NEWS RELEASE

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### Four Higher Education Institutions and Programs To Receive 2013 *CHEA Award*

(Washington, DC) – The Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) has announced the winners of the 2013 *CHEA Award for Outstanding Institutional Practice in Student Learning Outcomes*: **Drake University’s Environmental Science and Policy Program** (Iowa); **Harold Washington College**, one of the City Colleges of Chicago (Illinois); **St. Luke’s College** (Iowa); and **University of Wisconsin – La Crosse’s College of Business Administration** (Wisconsin).

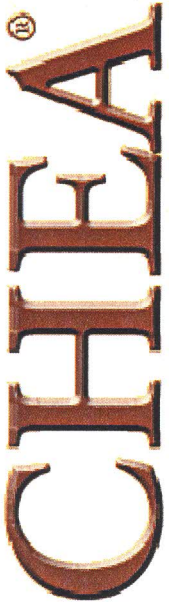
In announcing the award winners, CHEA noted:

- **Drake University** is a private university offering undergraduate, graduate and professional programs. The 2013 *CHEA Award* recognizes the university’s **Environmental Science and Policy Program** that has, over the past decade, developed a record of data-driven assessment used for curricular improvement and innovation.
- **Harold Washington College** is one of the City Colleges of Chicago. The 2013 *CHEA Award* recognizes the college’s assessments of student learning outcomes, which have influenced course sequencing, pre-requisites, teaching strategies, faculty development and institutional policies.
- **St. Luke’s College** is a private undergraduate institution offering associates degrees in health care fields. The 2013 *CHEA Award* recognizes the college’s development of specific student learning outcome expectations and clearly communicates what counts as evidence that outcomes have been achieved.
- **University of Wisconsin – La Crosse** is one of 13 comprehensive four-year institutions in the University of Wisconsin system. The 2013 *CHEA Award* recognizes the university’s **College of Business Administration**, accredited by AACSB International, for its use of outcomes assessment to improve student learning in its undergraduate program, utilizing a faculty-driven team that directs a strong assessment culture.

“These four institutions and programs provide excellent examples of effective approaches to the use of student learning outcomes,” said CHEA President Judith Eaton. “Information about outstanding practices can help other colleges and universities seeking to make gains in this important area.”

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The *CHEA Award* was established in 2005 to recognize institutions that have been exceptional in developing and applying evidence of student learning outcomes to improve higher education quality and accountability. A committee selected from higher education institutions, accrediting organizations and the public judged the entries on the basis of four award criteria: 1) articulation and evidence of outcomes, 2) success with regard to outcomes, 3) information to the public about outcomes and 4) use of outcomes for educational improvement.

Representatives from the institutions will receive the award at a ceremony to be held during the 2013 CHEA Annual Conference (January 28-30) at the Washington Marriott Hotel in Washington, DC.

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*A national advocate and institutional voice for self-regulation of academic quality through accreditation, CHEA is an association of approximately 3,000 degree-granting colleges and universities and recognizes 60 institutional and programmatic accrediting organizations.*