

Dr. Roxanne Kemp Makes History as First Black Woman to Found Global Accrediting Body for Digital Education

IACDE launches as a digital-first accrediting commission redefining quality assurance for global online education.

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The [International Accrediting Commission for Digital Education](#) (IACDE) today announced its official global launch — a milestone redefining educational quality assurance for the digital age. [Dr. Roxanne Kemp](#), Ph.D., Founder and President of IACDE, is recognized as the first Black woman in recorded history to establish an international accrediting body for digital education and online universities.



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The creation of IACDE signals a transformative shift in who defines excellence in education. For more than a century, the authority to set academic standards has been concentrated in traditional, often exclusive institutions. IACDE changes that narrative by centering diversity, innovation, and access in global quality assurance for digital-first institutions.

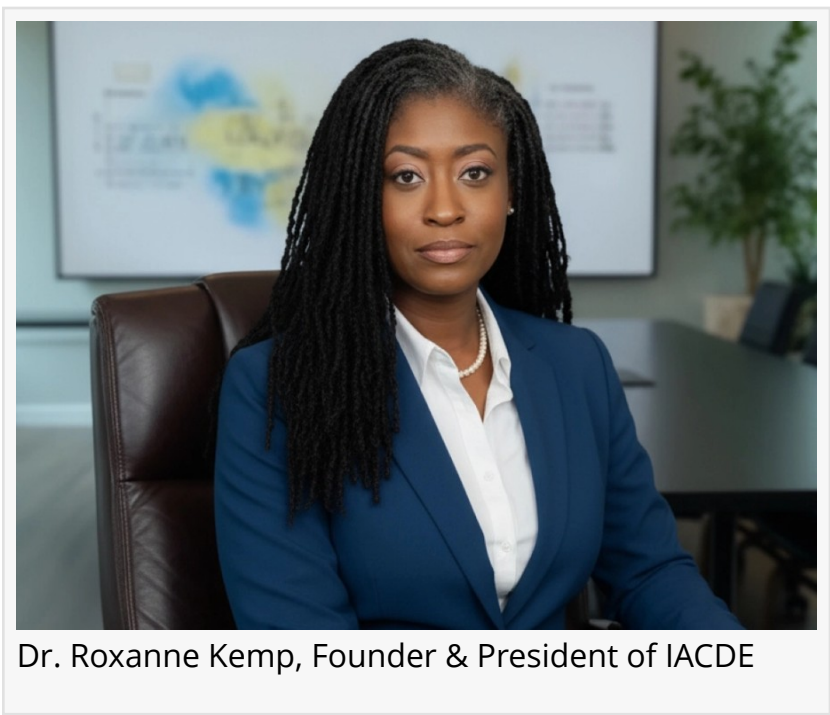
“For decades, the power to define ‘quality’ in education has been concentrated in a homogenous group. This has left entire sectors of innovative, digital, and faith-based institutions struggling for validation,” said Dr. Roxanne Kemp. “IACDE is more than a new accreditor—it’s a movement to redefine who gets to shape excellence in education. We are opening the doors of quality assurance to the entire digital world.”

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Unlike legacy accreditors that retrofit century-old standards for virtual settings, IACDE was built from the ground up for online education and emerging technologies. Its framework reflects a mentorship-driven ethos and measurable impact.

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- Digital-First Quality Standards – Benchmarks designed for online universities, academies, and training institutions.
- Global Accessibility – Open to institutions worldwide, regardless of size, region, or faith affiliation.
- Ethical and Equitable Review – Peer evaluations by diverse educators across multiple cultures and disciplines.
- Innovation and Impact Measurement – Focused on learner outcomes, social contribution, and technology integration.



Dr. Roxanne Kemp, Founder & President of IACDE

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We are not just creating a new accreditor; we are democratizing quality assurance for the digital age.”
Dr. Roxanne Kemp, Founder and President of IACDE

- Mentorship-Driven Accreditation – A supportive process that promotes institutional growth beyond compliance.

Dr. Kemp’s leadership and IACDE’s emergence arrive at a pivotal time in global education. Online learning has expanded faster than traditional quality assurance systems can adapt, leaving many innovative institutions unrecognized. IACDE bridges that gap by validating digital excellence while upholding integrity and accountability.

By establishing a global accrediting body led by a woman of color, IACDE sets a precedent for equity and inclusion in educational governance — ensuring that quality assurance finally reflects the diversity of those it serves.

Dr. Roxanne Kemp is an educator, entrepreneur, and higher-education innovator with advanced studies in technology, business, and psychology.

She has led numerous academic and nonprofit initiatives dedicated to equity and innovation in online learning. As Founder and President of the International Accrediting Commission for Digital Education, Dr. Kemp continues to pioneer systems that empower digital institutions and global learners alike. Her work integrates

technology, ethics, and access to ensure that all voices have a seat at the table of educational quality.

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The International Accrediting Commission for Digital Education (IACDE) is the first global accrediting body founded by a Black woman. Headquartered in Albuquerque, New Mexico, IACDE advances innovation, quality, and equity in digital education worldwide. Through its mentorship-based review model, IACDE accredits online universities, professional academies, corporate training programs, and micro-learning organizations that demonstrate excellence in outcomes and ethics.

For accreditation inquiries or to learn more, visit www.iacde.org
or email press@iacde.org

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