Happy New Year, Valentine’s Day and St. Patrick’s Day!!

Elsewhere in this issue of the Communiqué, you will read about the January Board meeting, as well as the Leadership meeting with the CoA Chairs. I want to use this space to talk about two other issues: 1) the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC); and 2) the value of belonging as a collaborating Committee of CAAHEP.

First, as most of you know by now, the CoARC has notified the Board that they intend to leave CAAHEP, effective January 15, 2010. No one on the CAAHEP Board wants to see CoARC leave and, as I told the CoARC Chair and Executive Director, both CAAHEP and CoARC lose something with this separation. That being said, the CAAHEP Board looked at what impact CoARC’s departure would mean for future projects we had planned and for our budget going forward. I am pleased to report that, although we will take a financial hit after CoARC leaves, this will not affect any of our projects or cause us to change our budget.

Second, let’s review the value of your CoA’s membership and what happens to the dues they pay to CAAHEP. Let’s start with communication. Information shared between CAAHEP and the CoAs is indispensable to keeping everyone informed of key accreditation issues, procedure updates and policy changes. This newsletter, along with the CoA Notes and the updates to the CAAHEP website, is paid for through dues dollars. The CAAHEP staff is a valuable resource, providing our CoAs assistance, answering the public’s and programs’ questions, and maintaining accreditation records. Networking and sharing ideas to fine tune processes are just a few of the benefits of the two meetings held each year, in which CAAHEP picks up the cost of a CoA Chair/member to attend. These meetings provide a great opportunity for CoA leaders to learn about Board activities and plans, and to share their ideas to improve our system with the Board. The CoAs set the agenda of the Summer Workshop, allowing them to discuss ideas to make our accreditation process work better and provide the Board with input to discuss these ideas, forming them into policy changes that bring the ideas to fruition. For our member institutions and sponsors, because CAAHEP is using dues money for these meetings, your CoA is able to hold the line on the dues you pay to them. CAAHEP has also used dues funds to develop resources used by the CoAs, such as the Site Visitors Quiz, the new Program Director’s toolkit project, and standardized forms. Funds are also expended in the maintenance of items used by the CoAs such as the Standards template, electronic tools for the self-study and site visit, as well as the annual report.

The list of tangible items of where dues money goes is long, but perhaps the most valuable items that CAAHEP has to offer are intangible: collaboration among allied health education entities, transparent third party accountability from application to the granting of accreditation, and student assurance that CAAHEP accredited programs have been reviewed and are in compliance with nationally-recognized Standards for the profession. All in all, CAAHEP services equal a great value for your dues dollars!

Speaking of a great value, plans are underway and it looks like another great Annual Meeting coming up this April. Check out www.caahep.org for more details. I look forward to seeing you in San Antonio.
Calendar of Events

March 2009
3: National Commission on Orthotic and Prosthetic Education (NCOPE) Meeting - Atlanta, GA
18-21: Accreditation Review Committee on Education in Surgical Technology (ARC-ST) Meeting - San Diego, CA
20: Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP), Board of Directors Conference Call

April 2009
4: Joint Review Committee on Education in Cardiovascular Technology (JRC-CVT) Meeting - Boston, MA
17-18: Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) Board of Directors Meeting - San Antonio, TX
19-20: Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) Annual Meeting of the Commission - San Antonio, TX
30-May 1: Medical Assisting Education Review Board (MAERB) Meeting - Chicago, IL

May 2009
1: Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP), Conference Call
15: Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP), Board of Directors Conference Call

July 2009:
16-18: Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC) Meeting in conjunction with AARC Summer Forum - Marcos Island, FL
18-20: National Commission on Orthotic and Prosthetic Education (NCOPE) Meeting, Portland, OR

23-24: CAAHEP Board of Directors Meeting - Marriott Crystal City at Reagan National Airport - Arlington, VA
25-26: CAAHEP Summer Workshop - Marriott Crystal City at Reagan National Airport - Arlington, VA
29-Aug. 1: Medical Assisting Education Review Board (MAERB) Meeting - Chicago, IL

August 2009
21-23: Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP) Meeting - Orlando, FL

September 2009
16-19: Accreditation Review Committee on Education in Surgical Technology (ARC-ST) Meeting - Denver, CO
18: Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP), Board of Directors Conference Call

October 2009
17: Accreditation Review Committee for the Anesthesiologist Assistant (ARC-AA) Meeting - New Orleans, LA

November 2009
20: Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP), Board of Directors Conference Call

December 2009
4: Medical Assisting Education Review Board (MAERB) - Conference Call Tentatively Scheduled

To report any changes or make additions to the Calendar of Events, please email lorna@caahep.org
Accreditation Actions
November 2008 and January 2009

Accreditation Actions: November 21, 2008

Diagnostic Medical Sonographer
Continuing
Austin Community College, Austin, TX (general) (Associate)
Austin Community College, Austin, TX (cardiac) (Associate)

Initial
Austin Community College, Austin, TX (vascular) (Associate)
Charles R Drew University of Medicine & Science, Los Angeles, CA (general) (Certificate)
Ferris State University, Big Rapids, MI (general) (Associate)
Institute of Allied Medical Professions, Delray Beach, FL (cardiac) (Associate)
Institute of Allied Medical Professions, Delray Beach, FL (general) (Associate)
Southside Regional Medical Center, Petersburg, VA (general) (Certificate)
St. Luke's Hospital of Kansas City, Kansas City, MO (general) (Certificate)

Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic
Continuing
American River College, Sacramento, CA (Associate)
College of Southern Nevada, Las Vegas, NV (Associate)
CUNY Borough of Manhattan Community College, New York, NY (Associate)
Lurleen B Wallace Community College, Andalusia, AL (Associate)
Palomar Community College, San Marcos, CA (Certificate)
Pensacola Junior College, Pensacola, FL (Associate)
Pikes Peak Community College, Colorado Springs, CO (Certificate, Associate)
Santa Rosa Junior College, Santa Rosa, CA (Certificate, Associate)
South Plains College, Lubbock, TX (Certificate, Associate)
Tacoma Community College, Tacoma, WA (Associate)

Initial
Adams Memorial Hospital, Decatur, IN (Certificate)
Aims Community College, Greeley, CO (Certificate, Associate)
Howard Regional Health System, Kokomo, IN (Certificate)
Ivy Tech Community College-South Bend, South Bend, IN (Certificate, Associate)
University of Alaska-Fairbanks, Fairbanks, AK (Certificate, Associate)
Vincennes University, Vincennes, IN (Associate)

Probation
St Francis Hospital and Health Centers, Beech Grove, IN (Certificate)

Kinesiotherapist
Continuing
University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS (Baccalaureate)
University of Toledo, Toledo, OH (Baccalaureate)

Orthotist/Prosthetist
Initial
St Petersburg College, Pinellas Park, FL (Baccalaureate)

Perfusionist
Continuing
Cooper University Hospital, Camden, NJ (Certificate)

Polysomnographic Technologist
Initial
Central Florida Institute, Inc., Palm Harbor, FL (Associate)

Specialist in Blood Bank Technology
Continuing
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX (Certificate)

Surgical Technologist
Continuing
Academy of Health Care Professions, Houston, TX (Certificate)
Augusta Technical College, Augusta, GA (Diploma)
Austin Community College, Austin, TX (Certificate, Associate)
Bowling Green Technical College, Bowling Green, KY (Diploma, Associate)
Career Technical College - Monroe, Monroe, LA (Associate)
Florence-Darlington Technical College, Florence, SC (Diploma)
Hinds Community College - Jackson, Jackson, MS (Certificate, Associate)
Illinois Central College, East Peoria, IL (Certificate, Associate)
Lee County High Tech Center-North, Cape Coral, FL (Certificate)
Lindsey Hopkins Education Center, Miami, FL (Certificate)
Northland Community and Technical College, East Grand Forks, MN (Associate)
NYU Langone Medical Center, New York, NY (Certificate)
Parkland College, Champaign, IL (Certificate, Associate)
Riverside Regional Medical Center, Newport News, VA (Diploma)
Rockingham Community College, Wentworth, NC (Diploma)
Sanford Brown College-Houston, Houston, TX (Certificate)
Sanford Brown Institute-Jacksonville, Jacksonville, FL (Certificate)
Sanford Brown Institute-Tampa, Tampa, FL (Diploma)
Simi Valley Adult School and Career Institute, Simi Valley, CA (Certificate)
Southwestern College, Chula Vista, CA (Certificate)
Vincennes University, Vincennes, IN (Certificate, Associate)

Initial
Dover Business College, Clifton, NJ (Diploma)
Indian Capital Technology Center, Muskogee, OK (Certificate)
National College-Danville, Danville, VA (Associate)
St. Mary’s Health Center, Jefferson City, MO (Certificate)

Accreditation Actions: January 15, 2009

Cardiovascular Technologist
Continuing
Carnegie Institute, Troy, MI (non-invasive peripheral vascular) (Diploma)
Central Florida Institute, Inc., Palm Harbor, FL (invasive cardiology) (Associate)
Central Florida Institute, Inc., Palm Harbor, FL (non-invasive cardiology) (Associate)
Harrisburg Area Community College-Lancaster Campus, Harrisburg, PA (invasive cardiology) (Associate)
Harrisburg Area Community College-Lancaster Campus, Harrisburg, PA (non-invasive cardiology) (Associate)
St Cloud Technical College, St Cloud, MN (Invasive Cardiology) (Associate)
St Cloud Technical College, St Cloud, MN (non-invasive cardiology) (Associate)
University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey-North, Newark, NJ (non-invasive peripheral vascular) (Baccalaureate)

Initial
BryanLGH College of Health Sciences, Lincoln, NE (invasive cardiology) (Baccalaureate)
BryanLGH College of Health Sciences, Lincoln, NE (non-invasive peripheral vascular) (Baccalaureate)

Cytotechnologist
Continuing
Detroit Medical Center - University Laboratories, Detroit, MI (Certificate, Baccalaureate)
University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT (Baccalaureate)

Electroneurodiagnostic Technologist
Continuing
Clarian Health Partners, Indianapolis, IN (Certificate, Associate)

Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic
Continuing
Black River Technical College, Pocahontas, AR (Certificate, Associate)
Bossier Parish Community College, Bossier City, LA (Associate)
Calhoun Community College, Decatur, AL (Certificate, Associate)
North Arkansas College, Harrison, AR (Associate)
Northwest Shoals Community College, Muscle Shoals, AL (Certificate, Associate)

Initial
East Mississippi Community College, Mayhew, MS (Certificate, Associate)

Exercise Physiology
Initial
University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Charlotte, NC (clinical) (Masters)

Exercise Science
Initial
Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, CT (Baccalaureate)
University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Charlotte, NC (Baccalaureate)
West Chester University-West Chester, West Chester, PA (Baccalaureate)

Medical Assistant
Continuing
Akon Institute of Herzing College, Akron, OH (Diploma)
Heald College-Concord, Concord, CA (Associate Degree)
Heald College-Fresno, Fresno, CA (Associate Degree)
Heald College-Hayward, Hayward, CA (Associate Degree)
Heald College-Milpitas, Milpitas, CA (Associate Degree)
Heald College-Portland, Portland, OR (Diploma)
Heald College-Portland, Portland, OR (Associate Degree)
Heald College-Rancho Cordova, Rancho Cordova, CA (Associate Degree)
Heald College-Roseville, Roseville, CA (Associate Degree)
Heald College-San Francisco, San Francisco, CA (Associate Degree)
Heald College-Stockton, Stockton, CA (Associate Degree)
Kaplan Career Institute-San Antonio, San Antonio, TX (Diploma)
Moraine Park Technical College, Fond Du Lac, WI (Diploma)
National College-Knoxville, Knoxville, TN (Associate Degree)
South Suburban College, South Holland, IL (Certificate)
Tri-State Business Institute, Erie, PA (Diploma)
University of Cincinnati Raymond Walters College, Cincinnati, OH (Associate Degree)
Wenatchee Valley College, Wenatchee, WA (Certificate)
Winter Park Tech, Winter Park, FL (Certificate)

Orthotist/Prosthetist
Probation
Northwestern University, Evanston, IL (Certificate)

Personal Fitness
Initial
Sinclair Community College, Dayton, OH (Certificate, Associate)

Polysomnographic Technologist
Initial
Alvin Community College, Alvin, TX (Associate)
Alvin Community College, Alvin, TX (Certificate)
Baptist Health Schools Little Rock, Little Rock, AR (Certificate)
Cuyahoga Community College, Parma, OH (Certificate)

Respiratory Therapy
Continuing
Kaplan College-Phoenix, Phoenix, AZ (advanced level) (Associate)
Kirkwood Community College, Cedar Rapids, IA (advanced level) (Associate)
Louisiana Technical College-West Jefferson Campus, Harvey, LA (entry level) (Associate)
Midland College, Midland, TX (advanced Level) (Associate)
North Shore Community College, Danvers, MA (advanced level) (Associate)
Olive-Harvey College, Chicago, IL (advanced level) (Associate)
Reading Area Community College, Reading, PA (advanced level) (Associate)
Seattle Central Community College, Seattle, WA (advanced level) (Associate)

Shawnee State University, Portsmouth, OH (advanced level) (Associate)
South Plains College, Lubbock, TX (advanced level) (Associate)
St. Luke's College, Sioux City, IA (advanced level) (Associate)
Temple College, Temple, TX (advanced level) (Associate)
Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology, Lancaster, PA (advanced level) (Associate)
Tri-County Technical College, Pendleton, SC (advanced level) (Associate)
University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-Stratford (South), Stratford, NJ (advanced level) (Associate)

Respiratory Therapy
Initial
Buckeye Hills Career Center, Rio Grande, OH (advanced level) (Certificate, Associate)
Goodwin College, East Hartford, CT (advanced level) (Associate)
Idaho State University, Pocatello, ID (advanced level) (Associate)

Specialist in Blood Bank Technology
Continuing
Gulf Coast School of Blood Bank Technology, Houston, TX (Certificate)

Surgical Assistant
Initial
American Center for Excellence in Surgical Assisting Inc., Greenwood Village, CO (Certificate)

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Correction

On page 11 of the October issue of the Communique, there was an article on the completion of the national collaborative project to develop a curriculum guideline for the sonography profession.

In the list of the 18 participating organizations in this historic project, somehow the Society for Vascular Ultrasound (SVU) was omitted from the list, even though it was included in the press release.

Our apologies to SVU for this omission!
Join us on April 19-20, 2009 at the Historic Menger Hotel in San Antonio, Texas for this important gathering.

“Change” may well have been the most over-used word in 2008, but there is no question that CAAHEP and our Committees on Accreditation are facing many changes, some of which will present us with new challenges. But we’ll also explore how collaboration is an important key in dealing with these uncertain times.

- We’ll hear about changes within CAAHEP (one CoA leaves while another one joins) and a major change that presents big challenges for one of our CoAs (Emergency Medical Services Professions);

- We’ll hear from the Trust for America’s Health about the challenges these tough economic times present for our nation’s disaster preparedness efforts and one institution will share some of the ways it is dealing with the challenge of student retention in tough economic times.

- Plus, we will take advantage of being in San Antonio to hear about the very big change in the structure of military training programs – and we’ll hear about the challenges facing the Center for the Intrepid which serves disabled veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan.

A registration form (with hotel information) is available at www.caahep.org under “News and Announcements” A more detailed agenda will be available at that site by the beginning of March.

The meeting will begin with a luncheon on Sunday, April 19th and will wrap-up with a “Farewell Reception” on Monday evening, April 20th.

This is “Fiesta” time in San Antonio and we’re right in the middle of it all at the Menger Hotel, so make your reservations early!!
The January Meeting marked by “Visioning” and Leadership Training

The 2009 Leadership Meeting of CAAHEP began with a meeting of the Board of Directors on January 15-16. The first day was “routine” Board business, including the accreditation actions listed elsewhere in this issue.

The Board also heard about progress that has been made on planning a one-day training workshop for “generalist” site visitors. They approved up to $30,000 for this project to move forward.

The Performance Oversight Committee reported on responses to a question that was recently added to our post-accreditation “customer survey” about the timeline for accreditation. They found in this first sample that the average length of time from submission of self-study to award of accreditation is 11.8 months.

The Board also reviewed a new fee schedule for the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography (JRC-DMS) and they approved a change in the term of initial accreditation for respiratory programs from three years to five years (this change is not retroactive to already accredited programs, but only applies to new initial accreditations).

One of CAAHEP’s public members, Steve Rodgers, will end his second term on the Board on June 30, 2009, so the Board had solicited nominees to replace Steve. They had four excellent candidates from which to choose, and ended up approving Jinny Gender, from Kirkwood, Missouri. Jinny has extensive experience serving on nonprofit boards including Friends of the Public Library, National Public Radio, the State Licensure Committee for Social Workers, and the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers. Jinny’s term will begin on July 1, 2009.

On Friday morning, the Board spent three hours in a “visioning” process led by facilitator Paul Gaston. This process resulted in a lot of ideas both big and small about future directions for CAAHEP. These ideas will be merged with the existing strategic plan and become a list of “strategic initiatives” to guide our priorities and activities in the coming months.

After lunch on Friday, the Board met along with the chairs of our Committees on Accreditation. All but one of the CoAs were represented at this meeting.

The afternoon session included a presentation titled “CHEA, ASPA, DOE (or is it USDE): The alphabet soup of third party recognition,” which explored questions like why did CAAHEP drop its recognition by the US Department of Education and what is the significance of CHEA recognition? This presentation was followed by a panel of CoA representatives talking about accreditation timelines. The day wrapped up with a “sneak preview” of some of the videos that will be included in the “Your Accreditation Mentor” tool, which will soon be on the CAAHEP website.

Saturday’s sessions were led by Paul Gaston, former Chair of ASPA and retired provost from Kent State University. The day was titled “Enhancing Effectiveness: One Day=Four Strategies” and it included topics such as time management, making Robert’s Rules of Order work for you, managing group meetings and an overview of various approaches to strategic planning.

Despite a cold front that made St. Pete Beach a little less than tropical, most attendees seemed to enjoy the hotel with its beautiful beach on the Gulf of Mexico and, as always, the networking and sharing turned out to be the most valuable part of the meeting for everyone.
Special Announcement:
Commissioner Needed!!

Effective June 30, 2009, the CAAHEP Commissioner representing Recent Graduates, Molly Marko, will complete her term.

THANK YOU, MOLLY, FOR YOUR SERVICE!!

This Commissioner position is appointed by the Board of Directors and is limited to one 3-year term. So, we are in the process of searching for a new Commissioner. The candidate must have graduated from a CAAHEP-accredited program within the past three years and currently be working in the health sciences field for which he or she was trained. For a complete list of the roles and responsibilities as well as an application form, please contact Kathy Megivern in the CAAHEP Office: Megivern@caahep.org.

The appointment will be made by the Board of Directors no later than the July 2009 meeting.

Visit the CAAHEP website for the latest news:  www.caahep.org