



acpeNEWS

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

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From regional director

The program highlight of September's annual regional meeting was Film and PTSD. The presentation focused on *The Dry Land*, a movie about the life of a combat veteran, and was led by Fuller Seminary Director **Will Stoller-Lee** and CPE Supervisor and Director of Centered Life **Pamela Roberts**. The subject, its portrayal, its implications for CPE and our exploratory discussions were intense and powerful!

Next year's annual meeting will be at Embassy Suites Downtown/Old Market in Omaha, Neb., Sept. 19–22. **Tom Backer** and **Inba Inbarasu** will collaborate with Council to plan the program and events.

The spring 2012 leadership gathering will be March 21–24, also at Embassy Suites Downtown/Old Market.

Regional news

Several regional family members were recognized as they completed terms as officers and committee members, including: **Wayne Van Kampen** as interim chair, **Jim Bennett** as accreditation chair, **Chuck Robertson** as nominations chair to serve as the RANC national chair and **Sharon Weissman** as clinical member rep on council. **Paula Gold** and **Joel Hempel** resigned from the Accreditation Committee. We are grateful for their service and leadership to the region and ACPE!

At the annual regional meeting **Roger Cauthon** and **Jan McCormack** successfully met the Certification Committee for supervisory candidate, and **Franklin Reagan** completed a Mandatory Readiness Consultation. More recently **Taalib u-din Al-Ansare** met the Certification Commission at the fall leadership meetings and became a

Officers and Committee Members for ACPE South Central Region

Meet your new leadership, effective Jan. 1., 2012. Go here: <http://www.scacpe.org/organizational/officers-committee.php>

CPE supervisor. Congratulations to each of these colleagues!

We extend best wishes to **Shannon Borchert** upon his new Clinical Pastoral Education coordinator position at The Reading Hospital and Medical Center in Reading, Penn., where he will work with Greg Stoddard. We will miss Shannon as friend and colleague!

Council selected our 2011 nominee for the Next Generation Award, chosen by ballot from any person certified as a CPE supervisor or associate supervisor during the past 10 years. Our nominee is **Dean Dyk**! He will be recognized at February's national conference.

Council

During the annual regional meeting, council acted on several items that were then ratified by the membership.

First, a *Governance Manual* change was recommended by Ethics Commission rep **Cristina Stevens**, which brought us into compliance with the current policy and procedure for handling of complaints.

Next, we established a team of regional ambassadors for the ACPE Capital Campaign that includes **Sheila Hammond**, **Julie Swaney** and **Tom Backer**. They will work collaboratively with teams from other

regions and in concert with the Capital Campaign Committee to identify potential donors for the construction and endowment of new International Educational and Administrative Center on property owned by ACPE in downtown Decatur, Ga.

Third, council approved and the membership ratified a fiscal plan for '12 that involved no change in regional fees and a \$5,000 adjustment in the RD retainer based upon a review of the task and time involved together with a proposed further increase of \$2,000 in '13. Council also made a \$2,500 gift to the FCPE Annual Fund for '11 and agreed to make an annual contribution to the fund based upon a percentage of annual regional revenue from student unit fees (exact percentage to be determined). In a separate action, council agreed to consider a later date for the annual regional meeting beginning in 2013—one that would be more removed from the start of fall units and thus likely in early October.

Wayne Van Kampen presented the slate of nominees for 2012 officers and committee members that was then elected by the membership. **Julie Swaney** becomes chair effective January 1, 2012. Some vacancies remained on committees and council; persons interested in serving are encouraged to contact Wayne.

Lastly, council received my application for another three-year term as RD, and will arrange for a performance review during 2012.

Lastly, Council considered program themes for this year's annual meeting at the Warwick Denver Hotel. They selected exploration of films and PTSD as our focus. Further word about the program content, schedule and registration will be available in the next few weeks.

National

Following **Teresa Snorton's** retirement as executive director, **Deryck Durston** began his duties as interim executive director Sept. 1, 2011, with active support from **Sally Schwab** as president and the board of reps. At the Atlanta leadership meetings in early November the board adopted new Mission and Vision Statements developed by the Strategic Planning Group led by **Paula Teague** with input from the membership. Conversations continue between the leadership of ACPE and APC exploring possible avenues for further cooperation and collaboration between the two professional organizations. To that end the officers of APC met with the Board of Reps in Atlanta.

Program and registration materials have been sent out for the REM 25th Invitational/ACPE Annual Conference Feb. 8–11, 2012, in Arlington, Va. The conference will conclude with a retirement celebration for **Bishop Teresa Snorton**. Please register at your early convenience

Best wishes for a happy and meaningful Thanksgiving!
—*Stu Plummer*

Accreditation news

At the Atlanta ACPE leadership meeting in early November, the Accreditation Commission acted on several items of business for South Central Region Centers. All SCR centers with notations for late student units were removed (Standard 300.1). Denver Seminary had two outstanding notations removed. Barnes Jewish St. Peter's Hospital was granted continued accreditation without notations following their 5-year review.

A decision was made by the commission not to allow 10-year site visits to be scheduled later than Nov. 15. This decision will impact all 2012 10-year reviews. The SCR has four 10-year reviews scheduled for 2012. They are HealthONE Swedish Medical Center; V.A.–St. Louis; Midwest CPE Program; and Saint Louis University Hospital. Five-year reviews scheduled for 2012 are Alegent Health; V.A.–Kansas City;

The Nebraska Medical Center CPE Program; and University of Colorado Hospital.

Jim Bennett, Chair

Board of Reps

Summary report of the Nov. 3–5, 2011, meeting in Atlanta. This meeting of the board will have significant impact going forward. Here are some of the issues that the board discussed and decided. All of them are important topics for the association now and in the future. Most significant are the new strategic plan, the proposed governance structure and some new alignments with APC. The membership will vote on the proposed governance structure in February at the National/REM Invitational Conference.

Strategic planning

The Strategic Planning Work Group presented its report. Following the survey—completed by 478 persons (25% return rate) including supervisors, seminary and denomination reps, ACPE office staff, CPE program administrator (thank you, Chuck!)—changes were made to the mission, vision, values and strategic initiatives. The board accepted the changes. We now have a new Strategic Plan. The minutes of the board meeting still need to be approved, so this material is a promise of things to come. The full plan will be available soon; here are some key components.

Mission: Advancing exceptional experience-based theological education and professional practice to a hurting world.

Vision: We will be an organization where people of diverse faith traditions, background and cultures collaborate to provide innovative experiential education. We will lead in the theory and practice of clinical education for spiritual care. We will promote and broaden the provision of quality professional theological education in a variety of settings.

Values

Education: We value a process model of education that is student-centered,

vigorously reflective and potentially transformative. We understand professional competence as the integration of personal story, religious heritage and theological understanding and knowledge of the behavioral sciences. This integration leads to personal awareness, integrity in relationships and receptivity to diversity.

Diversity: We value diversity and strive to educate culturally competent clinical pastoral educators and spiritual care providers. We engage in professional development to increase cultural awareness.

Collegiality: We value relationships marked by accountability, mutual respect, clear communication and ethical practice that supports personal and professional integration and care of self and others.

Strategic Initiatives: These are the topics of the initiatives full disclosure and more about them will be available through the website and the newsletter. This is to whet your appetite!

➤ collaborative relationships with faith groups, seminaries, and other organizations involved in spiritual care education and practice

➤ increase the number and diversity of certified supervisors in various contexts

➤ increase CPE numbers and diversity of accredited programs to serve the needs of students in various contexts

➤ provide professional development opportunities for ACPE members and organizations with whom we collaborate

➤ Ensure the most efficient stewardship of resources and integration of contemporary learning modalities

➤ Through fund development and ACPE stakeholder input, design and build new ACPE headquarters

Board members will work with association members to ensure that the Strategic Initiatives are well developed over the next years. Additionally the strategic plan will be reviewed every other year to assure relevance.

Governance proposal

The Strategic Planning Work Group also made a multifaceted proposal concerning a new governance structure. Details of this proposal will be forthcoming as the governance work group solidifies basic concepts.

The essential features suggested are a National Leadership Council (NLC) that would be a body that represents all regions, networks and membership categories within the association. The NLC's primary function would be to appoint a board of directors—a small group of perhaps seven members appointed for their expertise, e.g., finance, legal and ex officio leadership roles. The board accepted the work group's proposal, which has now been returned to the Governance Workgroup for tweaking. Further study of the proposal will occur in the regions and it will come before the membership for vote in February.

Conversation with APC

APC President David Johnson, President-elect Valerie Shaw, and APC Executive Director Pat Applehans attended a portion of the board meeting to talk about our mutual strengths and opportunities for improvement. We discussed multiple possibilities for resource alignment. APC board members have affirmed this direction and ACPE board members did the same following this conversation. For the present, most of our collaboration would be around technology and membership education. ACPE continues to educate for ministry. APC uses its strengths in continuing education for the memberships of both organizations. A task force will pursue other possible forms of alignment.

In light of these ideas, questions were raised about the role of the SCC (Spiritual Care Collaborative), which will be pursued at a meeting in Atlanta to discuss that organization's future.

Ongoing education

ACPE leadership enjoyed a lively presentation by Mark Tornsby based on the book *Race for Relevance* about issues of the

survival of professional associations. The book is a worthy read and affirms our efforts to simplify our governance structure not only for fiscal responsibility but also for effective functioning. Given the proposed new governance structure and the need to vote on it in February, it would be smart to read this book.

Reports

Hopefully interesting/relevant information but not exhaustive!

Certification Commission: Met a record number of candidates (40) and had a 75% pass rate! CPE supervisors certified solely by NACC will be able to use a process to become ACPE supervisors. The commission approved a process, which will go to the board in February. NACC supervisors already in ACPE process will continue the process.

Accreditation Commission: The National Site Team Chair has proven effective and successful so far. Notations are down. The pool of National Site Team Chairs will be increased from 25 to 40. The commission decided there will be no site visits after Nov. 15 because it is hard to find volunteers to visit the centers during the holidays. The number of late unit reports is steadily decreasing because of accreditation notations and national office electronic reporting. \$17,000 has been recovered from previously unreported units. Two educational complaints are in process.

Standards Committee: Studying the "end of unit" definition. A study document is ready for release concerning standard changes: (1) that narrative be required in all final evaluations and (2) that clinical ethics be required in curriculum. Some supervisors are giving 1.5 units of CPE credit, which is not in compliance with the Standards Committee's understanding of the definition of a unit being either .5 or 1 unit, but not 1.5 units. There is concern about distance supervision. There needs to be a forum for those who do this type of supervision to identify good practices and

what doesn't work.

Supervisory Education Task Force: ACPE and APC presidents will appoint a joint task group to explore and work toward

academic and professional requirements that emphasize what we do over and above academic requirements. This movement is meant to aid inclusion.

Seminary Representative Report: Encourage centers to advertize with more energy the ways in which they have addressed issues of diversity. Seminaries are interested in this and it becomes a marketing advantage. ATS is also really pushing on these issues.

Finance Report: The mantra continues—be mindful of expenses and stay within guidelines. There might be a surplus in the budget. Some will be placed in emergency reserve. Members will be asked to approve a budget based on income rather than expenses at the member meeting because the YE figures will not be ready due to the timing of the meeting.

Personnel Report: The previously appointed Executive Director Search Committee is disbanded. Robin Haithco-Brown will appoint a new search committee following the work of the governance group on the new governance structure. There will be further information about how we will honor Teresa at the National /REM Conference.

Interim Executive Director Report: We thanked Deryck for his work. The staff spoke positively about the transition. The priorities for the IED are to operationalize what we have adopted concerning mission, vision, values and strategic initiatives.

Reminder

We will elect a new president at the February meeting. So consider who might be candidates from our region!

—Sheila Hammond and Dean Dyk