

AC-PE PULSE

Summer 2008

The Newsletter of the Accreditation Committee-Perfusion Education
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Message from the Chair, William Horgan

With this being the start of another summer season it brings with it a new group of Perfusionists into the profession. It also brings the season of evaluations for our Programs that will help them improve as a school and help our profession by sending us a better class of graduates each year. You, the employer and you, the graduate hold the power to help make our programs better. In about six months you will start receiving evaluation surveys from the program, fill it out and return it to the school. Please answer the questions honestly. The programs will never fix a problem they don't know about and may fall below the threshold for outcomes if you don't do your part. Employers, make a note to ask for the school's survey when you are getting ready to evaluate your new employee. New Grads, you can help your school in two ways, one by filling out the survey and second by releasing your scores from the ABCP Certification examination. Guess what, shortly after you take the exam all of us in Perfusion know if you passed or failed because if you pass you tell the world but if you failed we also know because your name will not be published. So here's the deal, release your scores, help your school make any needed changes sooner.

Lastly, please pass this newsletter on to colleagues, students, employers, or anyone else that may benefit from the information. Thank you!

Standards and Guidelines Revision

CAAHEP requires its Committees on Accreditation to conduct a review of its Standards and Guidelines at least every ten (10) years. The AC-PE will begin this review process at its 2009 annual meeting. If you have any input or comments about content in the current Standards, please email ac-pe@msn.com. A copy of the current Standards can be found on CAAHEP's website at www.caahep.org under "For Program Directors."

Graduate and Employer Surveys

The AC-PE has assigned a sub-committee to review content of the Graduate and Employer surveys. If you have any input or comments about how these tools can be improved, please email ac-pe@msn.com.

Outcomes Thresholds

The AC-PE has six years of comprehensive program outcomes data! This provided an opportunity for the AC-PE to review outcomes thresholds set by the AC-PE. Upon review, it was determined that the following thresholds will remain unchanged:

Retention: 70%;

Positive Placement (working in the field, continuing education, or active military): 80%;

Employer and Graduate Survey Return: 50%; and

Employer and Graduate Satisfaction: 85%.

The AC-PE tabled consideration of the 70% pass rate threshold for the ABCP certification exams until its next meeting. Further discussion will include a possible change in ABCP results reporting and consideration of overall and/or content specific mean scores.

Policy Manual

At its April meeting, the AC-PE approved a new system for tracking document change. This will be a significant improvement in tracking changes made to AC-PE documents, including the policy manual. Every time a policy is revised, added, or deleted, a description of the change as well as reason for the change will be documented and attached to the end of the document.

Policy 12.00, Distance Learning/Alternate Delivery and Extension Courses, was revised at the April meeting. The initiating program is no longer required to be a currently accredited program. In addition, procedures for evaluation of the alternate delivery/distance portion were deleted. The new policy is as follows:

Alternate delivery, distance education and/or extension courses are defined as a teaching and learning process in which the majority of the instruction occurs when a student and instructor are not in the same place at the same time. Teaching and learning events may be synchronous or asynchronous. The educational process may include, but not be limited to, correspondence study, use of audio, video or computer technologies and other emerging delivery systems. It can incorporate part-time instruction off-campus at a satellite or branch campus.

Policy Statements:

1. Alternate learning and extension courses shall maintain teaching and learning integrity as defined by the Standards for Accreditation by CAAHEP/AC-PE.

The revised Policy Manual, using the new document revision tracking system, is posted on the AC-PE website. Check it out!

On the Horizon!

CAAHEP is currently working on a project that will assist and advise program directors about the accreditation process. "Your Accreditation Mentor" will be an online tutorial available for all program directors on CAAHEP's website. The planned completion date is September 2008.

FREE CME/CE COURSE

The Center for Bioterrorism and All-Hazards Preparedness at Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine, in partnership with Broward Community College, is offering a free course on Bioterrorism and All-hazards Preparedness. Visit www.nova.edu/allhazards or call 954-262-1688 for further information.

Emergency Preparedness Textbook

"Emergency Preparedness for Health Professionals" is now available through Paradigm Publishing. Visit www.ParadigmCollege.com and click on "Health Careers" to request a sample copy of the textbook!

The AC-PE
WISHES YOU
A FUN AND
SAFE
SUMMER!

