

## **ACPE BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES REPORT**

**November 8-12, 2000 Meeting, Nashville, TN**

**Respectfully submitted by,**

**Oz Anderson and Janet Labrecque, NCR Representatives**

**The Board of Representatives met in Nashville, November 8-12. This was the longest and one of the most significant meetings of the Board during our tenure. Actually there were three segments to the Board meeting: to receive and discuss the "White Paper", to receive and discuss the Collaborative Steering Committee report, and to conduct the business of the Association.**

Involved with us in the White Paper discussion were representatives from five pastoral care organizations in North America: ACPE, APC, NACC, National Association of Jewish Chaplains, and the Canadian Association for Pastoral Practice and Education. Representatives from all five groups had been involved in writing the paper whose purpose was "to create a statement that will serve as the foundation for advocacy efforts with executives, consultants, and health care professionals." Mark Jensen and Maxine Glaz (both former Board members) represented ACPE in the writing effort. Larry Burton and Larry Vande Creek presented the paper and were the primary resource persons. The discussions were essentially positive and supportive, and all the Boards affirmed the process. The two Larry's were authorized to incorporate the wisdom of these discussions in the final draft which will be brought back to the Boards for final approval.

The Collaborative Steering Committee report was a progress report on a project which began about five years ago with the "Five Presidents Initiative". At that time the Presidents of ACPE, NACC, AMHC, COC, and AAPC began discussions about how the five organizations could move towards greater collaboration. After considerable background work, we all met together in Nashville two years ago to discover how much interest there was, and to explore options. At that time it was decided that there was enough interest and energy to move forward, so a Steering Committee was formed. ACPE appointed John Moody, David Carl, and Maxine Glaz to represent us on the Committee, and John Moody became the Chair of that group. They have put a lot of energy into the project and have kept the Boards informed on a regular basis. In 1999 the Boards of all the participants approved the joint Mission, Vision and Values statement, and were asked to give some guidance about what kind of models of collaboration should be pursued. During this two year period, AMHC and COC merged, and AAPC decided to withdraw from continuing discussions. So now the five had become three. So much for the history.

At Nashville we were presented with a model which could move the three organizations towards closer cooperation, and perhaps even some kind of federation or merger in the future. We all have our vested interests and skepticism, so we will move very cautiously and protectively in the future. The Collaborative Steering Committee had done a wonderful job of listening to the concerns and visions expressed by the constituent Boards, and the model they presented suggested some interesting possibilities. However, I think it is fair to say at this stage in the process that the ACPE Board were not yet able to envision a model that would satisfy our concerns. We have committed ourselves to remain in the conversation with APC and NACC about how to collaboratively enhance our mutual interests. The ACPE Newsletter will have an FAQ section on this project, as well as an update report by John Moody who is the chair of the Collaborative Steering Committee. At Vail ACPE members will have opportunity to ask questions and express opinions.

Our four days in Nashville began and ended with the ACPE Board meeting separately, tending to Association business. We also met separately whenever there was a window or opportunity between our meetings with our cognate friends. Among items discussed and decided were;

- ACPE logo development is in progress. Don Stiger and Pat Wilson-Robinson are in charge.
- Endowment grants totaling \$28,000 were awarded, including Sinai Health System in Chicago for a Spanish language component in CPE.
- Strategic Plan still being developed.
- Personnel committee doing an outstanding job. Gave Teresa Snorton an outstanding report on her functioning as our Executive Director. They also recommended upgrading the salary structure for office staff to make our salaries more competitive with the Atlanta labor market.
- Considerable discussion about the “red book” which is extremely expensive and time consuming and obsolete by the time it is printed. Maybe should be done only on the web page where it could be kept current. What do you think?
- The financial crunch is still with us but much of the money which was borrowed for upgrading our information services and national office has been repaid. Project 2000 is a worthy cause and we are still receiving contributions, and your participation can help us wipe out the debt.
- The REM Invitational will be in San Diego February 1-3, 2001. This is a great gathering and San Diego is a great place to be in February so make your plans to be there.
- Stu Plummer has been selected as the recipient of the 2001 ACPE Distinguished Service Award and will be honored at the Vail meeting. There were five nominees, all extremely qualified.
- The ACPE Board voted to grant full supervisory status to all fully certified, active NACC Supervisors upon application and payment of annual ACPE supervisory fees.
- The Accreditation Commission has been studying the request for dual/joint/concurrent/parallel site visits with CPSP. The Board voted that there could be no joint site visits without written approval of the Accreditation Commission.
- We met with the Chairs of the Commissions and Committees who were also meeting in Nashville at the same time. Our Accreditation, Standards, Ethics, and Certification representatives will be reporting on the business they conducted.
- A Task Force on Multicultural Competency was appointed, under the chairmanship of Jim Gibbons.
- At their regional meeting the Pacific Region discussed the Dave Myler paper on ways to improve our Certification process. They brought some of those ideas to the Board with the request that we take seriously some of the revolutionary ideas presented. For a copy of the paper contact Dave at [dmyler@mednet.ucla.edu](mailto:dmyler@mednet.ucla.edu).

Our apologies for this lengthy report. If you have read this far, please take some comfort in the knowledge that it is only a very brief summary of many hours of meeting. If you have need for clarification or would like to express your pleasure or dissatisfaction, please get in touch with either one of us.

**Personal Postscript from Oz:**

This was my last meeting as your representative to the ACPE Board. It is with both relief and reluctance that I am sending Steve Pohlman a big package of Board minutes, policies, etc. I will not miss the long and sometimes tedious meetings, but I will most certainly miss the intimate involvement with such a wonderful group of committed people who share my passion for our common enterprise. I have been impressed by the dedication, perseverance and competence of the officers and members of the Board. I have served under three Presidents (Bill Baugh, JoClaire Wilson, and Jim Stapleford) all of whom have brought special gifts and lots of energy to the task. It has been an interesting and eventful four years during which we hired Teresa as our new ED, upgraded and updated the office, struggled with financial concerns, and dealt with a strategic plan as well as significant collaborative initiatives with our cognate friends. I thank you for the opportunity to serve the Region and Association in this way. I encourage you all to empower Steve and Janet with your ideas and concerns.