

Report to the SERACPE from  
Peter Keese and Miriam Needham, your Board Reps  
April 28,2008

We met in Memphis (March 31-April 3), so that those in the leadership of the ACPE who could spend the week there could participate in the REM Conference which followed immediately upon the ending of the Leadership meetings. As you know, the weekend coincided with the anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s assassination.

This was our first meeting under the leadership of our new President, Bill Scrivener. He did a fine job of presiding, and we experienced a good spirit in the meeting.

Here are some highlights of the meeting:

- In her report to us, our Executive Director, Teresa Snorton, offered some exciting initiatives and reported on important work that is ongoing.
  - a) She is spending a considerable amount of her time getting the Foundation for CPE up and running.
  - b) The interest from around the globe in developing CPE Programs (especially with reference to the success of the Africa University CPE Program) is growing.
  - c) In addition, Teresa and Miriam are paying close attention to the need to market CPE outside of healthcare.
  - d) Further, she is attending to ways to make supervisory education available to "underrepresented groups".

The most exciting part of her report had to do with what she is calling "**the New Generations Project**". She told us that ACPE must (in addition to its administrative functions) become **a program organization**. That is, it must begin to generate programs (rather than depending on local centers to do this). She proposes that this project will "1) support non-traditional programs of CPE; 2) encourage creativity and innovation; and 3) be an investment in our future."

The Board enthusiastically endorsed this initiative. Miriam Needham and Jan McCormack were appointed to represent the Board on the New Generations Project which will form as a sub-committee of the Accreditation Commission.

We also commended Teresa for her good work and urged her to commend, on our behalf, her staff for their fine work.

- We heard a full report from the Development Committee and from Mark Leichter (who will be staffing the work of the forming Foundation for Clinical Pastoral Education for a time). The Foundation is ready to commence operations as a separate entity (necessarily separate for legal and tax reasons, but a body created to serve the ACPE). We passed several enabling resolutions to guarantee that the ACPE Board and membership would always maintain a

controlling membership on the Board of the FCPE and to see to the orderly transition of fund-raising operations to the FCPE.

- The (perennial) question of endorsement came to us this time in the form of a request from a “Coalition of Spirit-Filled Churches” to be recognized as an endorsing agency. We had sufficient questions about that organization to decide to deny their request.
- The Spiritual Care Collaborative (consisting of 6 autonomous bodies – APC, ACPE, NACC, AAPC, NAJC, and CAPPE) is considering a request from the CPSP to join the Collaborative. Each body is to vote separately. Part of our discussion centered around how the Collaborative holds constituent members accountable to the common standards. Once the six bodies have voted, the SCC will meet to determine its response.
- The Journal of Pastoral Care and Counseling was discussed in some detail. Teresa continues to spend a considerable amount of time seeing to the management of the business of the Journal. We moved to get some clarity about lines of accountability, time spent by our ED, and financial realities of the journal.
- The Accreditation Commission, under the able leadership of Karrie Oertli, continues to work to simplify the Accreditation processes.
- Likewise, under the able leadership of Ted Trout-Landen, the Certification Commission continues to do its good work. Ted raised the Commission’s concern about endorsement. A high percentage of those requesting Certification were granted their requests this spring.
- Under the very able leadership of Board member Mary Beth Hayes, the Supervisory Education Implementation Group presented a detailed report with many suggestions. The one I (Peter) thought was most welcome had to do with attention to the support of those supervising Supervisory Education Students. We encourage all to read their full report.
- There is ongoing conversation about an appropriate designation for Supervisors and for our Association. No decisions yet. A Task Force appointed by Bill Scrivener will report to the Board in the fall.
- Our treasurer continues to do fine work; we are in solid financial condition, yet it is clear that we need the Foundation to succeed in our fund-raising efforts; we cannot continue to fund our work by self-taxation.

In summary, it was a productive meeting. We have only mentioned some highlights. Jap has also reported on some items. We welcome your questions or comments. And we urge you to read the full minutes of the meeting when they become available.