

STATUS REPORT

MARCH, 2000

The Council of Academic Programs in Communication Sciences and Disorders (CAPCSD) has had a full agenda this academic year. There are many important issues impacting academic programs that the CAPCSD is addressing both independently and in collaboration with other groups. The following highlight some of the Council's activities since we last met in November.

Governance and Decision Making Restructuring Proposed. Enclosed is a copy of the proposed changes in the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Council. In response to the long-range plan presented to the Council last April, the Executive Board has discussed at length how changes in the membership of the Council, changes in health care and the higher education environment, and other academic issues have an impact on the Council and its overall operation. Consideration was given to whether or not the mission and goals of the Council might be better served by a different model of governance and/or operational policies/procedures. Suggestions were solicited from member representatives and past Council leadership. The major changes recommended have been incorporated in these documents and are being presented for your review. They will be discussed during the Plenary session at the April Conference. Please bring your copy with you and be prepared to ask questions and offer any revisions you feel would strengthen our operations. The major revisions include:

1. The mission and purpose statements which were revised in 1998 replaced the original 1979 statement.
2. The number of Executive Board members increased from eight to nine, keeping the same elected officers and changing the appointed board members from committee chairs to vice-presidents.
3. Officer and committee responsibilities are reorganized and aligned with the major purposes of the Council and a clearer delineation of those duties described.
4. Procedures for approval of resolutions and positions statements was added.

I would again like to acknowledge the Long Range Planning Committee for the excellent document that guided our deliberations (Chair Ro Scudder, Jerry Carney, John Pettit, Dan Tullos, Kathy Whipple and Doug Martin). A special thanks to Executive Board members Jerry Carney and Rick Talbott for contributing long hours to the tedious process of drafting the proposed changes to the Articles and Bylaws. We look forward to member input in April. Following any revisions at the April meeting, the documents will be mailed to member programs for ratification with the election ballot.

April Conference. You have already received the materials and I hope are making your

plans to attend the 2000 CAPCSD Annual Conference, April 6-8, at the Catamaran Resort Hotel in San Diego (Mission Bay), California. Pre-conference activities will begin on Wednesday, April 5. Gip Seaver (Conference Chair), Jane Lieberman (Assistant Chair), Jerry Carney (Board Liaison), and Mary Ambroe have planned an excellent program. Again this year we are encouraging you to bring your clinic director. In addition to the informative general and *How To* sessions, there will be pre-conference sessions, *Swap Shops*, and important emerging issue topics for both program directors and clinic directors.

- **First Singular Scholarship to be Awarded in San Diego.** One of the highlights of the April meeting will be an announcement and introduction of the first recipient of the Singular Scholarship. The scholarship is intended to recognize excellence by doctoral students in development of an innovative instructional technology project. The Council will be forever grateful to Singular Publishing and the Singh family for their generous contribution making the scholarship a reality. We also appreciate the work of Chuck Speaks, Trish Hargrove, and Maurice Mendel for developing and disseminating guidelines for review of applications and overseeing the selection of our first scholarship winner.

- **Council Membership Continues to Increase.** We are pleased to announce the following new member programs since the last Status Report:

Louisiana - Xavier University of Louisiana (Joe Melcher, PhD)

Texas - Stephen F. Austin State University (Michael McKaig, PhD)

The Council currently has 240 member programs. Executive Board members are in the process of calling directors of non-member programs to discuss the benefits of Council membership and to encourage their attendance at our April conference.

- **Please Return the Council Salary Survey.** You should have received the first *CAPCSD Salary Survey* earlier this month. The survey was initiated in response to member requests for the information. Please help make this a valuable source for all by returning the completed survey **today**. If you have lost the survey on your desk somewhere and need help finding it, it is green! If you still can't find it and need another copy, email me at elainem@mail.uca.edu and I will send you another.

- **January Executive Board Meeting.** The Executive Board met in Albuquerque at the Old Town Sheraton on January 28 - 29 and approved this as the site for the 2003 conference. The meeting agenda was full with work on the proposed governance restructuring, discussions of the new SLP and SLPA standards, recommendations from the Nominations Committee (Chair Kim Wilcox, Pollie Murphy, and Jim Naas) and the Honors and Awards Committee (Chair John Ferraro, Judy Page, and Dan Tullos), planning advocacy efforts for future legislative issues and research support, and approving the new business contract for our management firm. A draft of the meeting minutes should appear on the Web site soon.

- **Executive Board Monitoring Situation for 2001 Conference in Charleston.** The 2001

CAPCSD Annual Conference is scheduled for Charleston, South Carolina. The NAACP has requested a boycott of tourism to South Carolina until the Confederate flag is removed from flying over the state capitol. The Board is monitoring the situation closely. At the CAPCSD Executive Board meeting last month, the Board directed Mary Ambroe and Jerry Carney to obtain necessary information for us to make an informed decision about the location of the 2001 Conference. They have been in contact with the Westin Francis Marion Hotel, the Charleston Convention and Visitors Bureau, hospitality industry lobbyists, and others in South Carolina who are knowledgeable regarding the situation. Most are confident that the issue will be resolved shortly, certainly before our contracted conference. Information on the availability of other sites has also been obtained. The Executive Board will discuss the issues and will provide an update on the situation at the plenary session in San Diego.

NCATE Clarification. There have been questions raised by member programs regarding the curriculum guidelines, standards, and process for programs in communication sciences and disorders when their institution is preparing for an accreditation review by NCATE (National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education). The Executive Board asked that I follow-up on members' concerns. The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) is the specialty professional organization that initiates guidelines for and reviews special education programs within NCATE. Neither CEC nor NCATE have separate standards or guidelines for programs in speech-language pathology or audiology. According to an agreement established with ASHA in 1995, CEC accepts accreditation by the American-Speech-Language-Hearing Association in speech pathology and audiology; consequently, the institution need only to submit a copy of its approval letter from the Council on Academic Accreditation. This should be submitted even though the program may be in a college other than education in the institution. (See page 92 of the *NCATE Program Standards, Program for Initial and Advanced Preparation of Teachers of Special Education*, available on the NCATE Web site <http://www.ncate.org>) The individual with whom I spoke at CEC is Margie Crutchfield, CEC/NCATE Liaison for Standards. She indicated a willingness to answer additional questions from program directors (703-620-3660 or margieec@cec.sped.org).

Reminder Regarding Admission Acceptance Deadlines. Spring semester means application and admissions deadlines. Upon written ballot from CAPCSD member programs in 1998, the Council approved Resolution 98-4 which states:

Resolved, That the Council recommend that graduate programs allow applicants until April 15 to make final decisions regarding acceptance of offers of admission and financial aid for the following summer or fall semester.

While this is now the stated policy of the Council, I would also direct your attention to the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) *Resolution Regarding Graduate Scholars, Fellows, Trainees and Assistants*. That resolution states that students are in fact, under no obligation to accept offers of financial assistance until April 15. While not all CAPCSD institutions are signatories to the CGS Resolution, the vast majority of us have agreed to abide by its guidelines. See resolution and supporting institutions at <http://www.cgsnet.org/publications/resolut.htm>.

- **New Links on Council's Web Site.** The Council Web site (<http://www.capcsd.org>) is a source of information about CAPCSD and its activities. The *Links* section provides quick access to various sites of related professional organizations. Two new links to ASHA's Web site have been established. One links to information about the summer 2000 Research in Higher Education Mentoring Program which offers stipends to undergraduate and master's students for summer research experiences. The second link is to the Professional Issues Forum of the Academic Affairs Board. This site provides brief monthly presentations on a wide range of professional and academic issues of interest to faculty and students. Maurice Mendel, CAPCSD Web Master does a great job with our site. I would encourage you to visit the site regularly and inform your faculty and students of this resource.
- **Directory Updates.** Just a reminder that the CAPCSD Directory is compiled from information provided by each member program and it is the responsibility of program representatives to review both Directory and Web descriptions and to provide corrections to the Council office. Beginning with the 2001 Directory, we will include the option for listing *Candidacy* accreditation status for new programs as well as area(s) of CAA accreditation (A/SLP) reported by programs.
- **Publications Inventory.** The CAPCSD office in Minneapolis maintains an inventory of Council publications which can be ordered by contacting the office. Current year items are \$25 each and back items are only \$10 each. Copies of both the National Survey and Conference Proceedings are available, as well as the current year Directory. There is a Publications Order Form on the last page of the Directory.
- **Archives.** Our archive of directories goes back as far as 1984. Does anyone know when we began publishing a directory? Council Archivist Barbara Shadden requests that if you or anyone you know has directories from years prior to 1984 and would be willing to part with them, please consider donating them for the archives. Items can be sent directly to the CAPCSD office in Minneapolis.
- **Mini EB/EB Meeting with ASHA.** A meeting was held February 6-7 at the ASHA National Office in Rockville, MD. Council representatives were McNiece, Carney, Talbott, and Miller. ASHA representatives were Logemann, Bernthal, Anderson, Ingham, and Oschner. Issues discussed included: (1) updates by each group on current activities of interest, (2) legislative advocacy initiatives of each organization and joint support for activities where appropriate (e.g. Office of Ed and NIH funding), (3) update on the new speech-language pathology certification standards, (4) progress toward implementing 2012 audiology certification standards, (5) implications of ASHA's Workforce Study for Academic Programs, (6) report on the Caucus on Adult practicum sites held at the 1999 convention, and (7) possible collaborative projects for 2000. Those attending the meeting agreed that it had been a very positive and productive dialogue. I would like to thank Debra Busacco, Director of ASHA's Academic Affairs unit for making arrangements for the meeting.
- **Nominate Your CAPCSD Colleagues for ASHA's Certificate of Recognition for Special Contributions in Higher Education.** I would like to encourage you to nominate an

individual, or a group of individuals, for recognition by ASHA for distinguished achievement and/or contributions in teaching, clinical teaching, student mentoring, or development of new and innovative educational techniques and technologies in the fields of audiology, speech-language pathology, or speech-language and hearing science. Criteria for election and procedures for nominating can be found on the ASHA home page under announcements. Nominations are due April 1.

I look forward to seeing you in San Diego. Thank you for your continuing support and assistance and let me know if you have questions, opinions, or concerns about our work on behalf of the Council.

Elaine McNiece
CAPCSD President