

The Council for Allied Health in North Carolina
March 5, 2003
9:30AM – 12:30PM
Friday Center for Continuing Education, Chapel Hill

Attendees:

Council Members:

Judi Ashbaugh (for Tom Tucker) – DHHS, Office of Rural Health & Resource Development
Tom Bacon – *Chair* – Director, NC AHEC Program
Alan Brown – *Data Committee Chair* – NC AHEC Prog.
Andrea Catenaro – *Assistant*
Bill Croft – *Professional Rep (Group 4)*
Carolyn Cusic – NC Assn. for Home Care & Hospice
Susan Dyson – Sheps Center
Erin Fraher – Sheps Center
Algje Gatewood – NC State Ed. Assistance Authority
Kathy Heilig – *Vice Chair* – NC Hospital Association
Pam Horton – *Professional Rep (Group 3)* Cassina Hunt – NC Health Info. Management Assn.
Elizabeth Isler – NC Community College System
Rees Jenkins – *Past Chair*
Marge Ottogy – *Professional Rep (Group 6)*
Max Queen – Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College
Elizabeth Rogers – Ind. Colleges and Univ.'s of NC
James Sadler – UNC General Administration
Vickie Whitaker – DHHS, Division of Public Health
David Wysocki – *Professional Rep (Group 2)*
David Yoder – *Executive Director*

Presidents:

Rebecca Bullock – NC Association of Blood Bankers
Cherie Conroy-Harman – NC OT Association
Wayne Foster – NC Speech, Hearing & Language Assn.
Valrie Hopkins – NC Soc. of Radiologic Technologists
Pam Horton – NC Soc. for Clinical Lab. Science (for Dan Southern)
David Lewis – NC Academy of Physican Assistants
Lynn Losada – NC Occupational Therapy Association
Cornelia McClure – NC Health Info. Management Assn. Beth Sheppard – NC Histopathology Tech.
Association
Carolyn Taylor – Clinical Laboratory Management Assn., Blue Ridge Chapter
Martha Taylor – NC Dental Hygiene Association
Ron Walker – NC Nuclear Medicine Association
Eileen Watkins – NC Physical Therapy Association
Sharon Wertz – NC Ultrasound Society
Tom Williams – NC Society for Respiratory Care

Guests:

Frances Apple – NC Soc. of Radiologic Technologists
Allison Bordeaux – Wake AHEC
Anita Brown – Cabarrus College of Health Sciences
Katherine Coggins – Area L AHEC
Tom Connelly – Cabarrus College of Health Sciences
Gregory Cooper – NC HCAP
Libby Haile – Greensboro AHEC
Rose Hood – Greensboro AHEC
Lee McLean – *Chair*, UNC Dept. of Allied Health Sci. Brenda Mitchell – UNC Dept. of Allied Health
Sciences
Debbie Ramey – Eastern AHEC
Nancy Simpson – Northwest AHEC
Lew Stringer – Special Operations Response Team
Janice Thalman – Duke AHEC
Robert Thorpe – UNC Dept. of Allied Health Sciences
Amy Vega – SR-AHEC

Bert Wilkins – Sheps Center

Welcome and Introductions

Approval of January 8, 2003 Council Minutes

Approved

Presentations:

Dr. Lew W. Stringer: Bioterrorism = WMD and Public Health Emergencies

Special Operations Response Team (SORT)

State Medical Response Plan (SMRS)

Unified Incident Command System (ICS)

HYPERLINK "http://www.sortteam.org" <http://www.sortteam.org>

121 Polo Rd., Winston-Salem, NC 27105

NC Association Presidents:

Martha Taylor, NC Dental Hygiene Association

“Give Kids a Smile” – success

Joined with Community Colleges to push through licensure.

Joined w/ Dental Society and State Board, increase fees for licensure

Major concern: Increase in # of Dental Hygiene schools in NC, graduates can't find jobs

Wayne Foster, NC Speech, Hearing & Language Association

50th Anniversary of the Assoc.

Licensure must reflect level of training

Changes in Medicaid are a concern

Poor and at-risk children have a high incidence of hearing losses: achievement gap grows early and over time

State budget woes having negative effects on practice

No Child Left Behind – clinicians asked to address disorders and weave into course of study

SLP's must be able to diagnose and treat more disorders than before. Audiologists must have knowledge in electronics and digital technology.

Continuing Education will soon become mandatory for SLP & A.

Workforce study can be found through Council Web site.

Eileen Watkins, NC Physical Therapy Association

Handout

Presenting at APTA meeting in June

Advocate K-12 Physical Education needs

HYPERLINK "http://www.ncpt.org" <http://www.ncpt.org>

Workforce study can be found through Council Web site.

David Lewis, NC Academy of Physician Assistants

60% of PA's work in primary care or rural health

Close relationships with NC Medical Board and Medical

Society

Continuing Education conferences raise funds
4 PA programs in state (ECU, Duke, Wake Forest, Methodist) – offer Masters. Duke has started a Surgical Residency program
80 hour limit on residents could lead to shortage
Diverse classes – Duke's class is 80% female
Job growth is strong

Valrie Hopkins, NC Society of Radiologic Technologists

CARE bill – penalty for non-compliance
Handout – mission statement
“RT's in DC” – encourage state legislators to get agenda on Federal level
Contact Valrie, Frances Apple, or central office for more information
<http://www.ncsrt.org>

Ron Walker, NC Nuclear Medicine Technologists

Problems with reimbursement for procedures
New procedure: Miraluma – used to detect breast cancer, quicker, less painful, less radiation than mammogram, can pick up cancer on cellular level instead of waiting for a cyst/tumor, no side effects

Becky Bullock, NC Association of Blood Bankers

HYPERLINK "<http://www.ncabb.org>" <http://www.ncabb.org>
Annual fall meeting: 2-day event
Spring Workshop: April 1
Incredible shortage of trained staff: loss of schools of medical technology, programs for specialist in blood banking, aging of med tech's, blood bankers leaving field for more money and prestige,
Increase in regulatory issues: AABB Accreditation, FDA Code of Federal Regulations; require resources and time, smaller facilities drop accreditation due to staff shortages
Creation of independent blood centers: political/financial approach, blood bankers caught in middle
Concerns: financial support for continuing ed of blood bank tech's, time constraints for continuing ed of blood bank tech's, difficulty in finding volunteers

Cornelia McClure, NC Health Information Management Association

AHIMA board recently worked on refining strategic plan: develop goals in focus areas, how to ensure success for HIM professionals
Need to promote value of profession
EHIM: Electronic HIM – develop tools to create new jobs, learn new schools for transition to electronic means of coding

NCHIMA goals: work with findings from task force study
(report on SHEPS web site can be linked from Council web
site) – disparity b/w criteria to become credentialed coder
among organizations

Developed CHP credential for HIPAA officers

Pam Horton, NC Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (for Dan Southern)
Associate/Bachelor degrees offer higher salaries
Workforce shortage

Beth Sheppard, NC Histopathology Technologists Association
No educational opportunities, only 22 programs in USA
Publicity problem, “CSI” helped

Carolyn Taylor, Clinical Laboratory Management Association, Blue Ridge
Chapter

Handout

Eastern NC, Coastal Carolina chapters

Work collaboratively with other organizations

Efficient use of electronic media (HYPERLINK "http://
www.clma.org" <http://www.clma.org>)

Put upcoming meetings on website

Lab networks putting online ordering to the test

Labs find success by being first to implement best practices

Managing mergers

Reimbursement issues, delivery of services including form,
workforce

Tom Williams, NC Society for Respiratory Care

Handout

Need for specific documentation of care, draft format

Education: all NC programs are Associate level, national
push for registry status to be BS degree, no 4-year
programs in NC

Sharon Wertz, NC Ultrasound Society

7 school programs

Lynn Losada, NC Occupational Therapy Association

Cherie Conroy-Harman, president-elect

HYPERLINK "http://www.ncota.com" <http://www.ncota.com>

Reimbursement issues, Medicaid and State Health Plan.

Monitoring DHHS efforts to make sure cuts don't hurt
patients by denying services or having providers back out
due to red tape.

Continuing Education: contact hours requirements, Spring
and Fall conferences

Professional networking, advocacy promoted

Work with national association on caps.

Business of the Council

Announcements

March 18-20, NC AHEC 2003 Workshop/Conference in Winston-Salem, Adams Mark Hotel. National and State speakers.

Discussion and Action

Revisiting a “best fit” for professional association groups. Task Force led by Karen Luken. Pam Horton reported in Luken’s absence:

There is a need for greater clarity on role of group representatives. The representative will not always be an association president. Group sizes have changed over the years. Because the functions of some professional groups have changed the titles of groups may no longer relate to the associations they represent.

Suggestions included 2 representatives per group, write procedure for representative assignments and placement of new members.

Reports

Data Committee Report – Alan Brown

Cassina Hunt: There are shortages in almost every allied health profession including HIM. Sheps studies provide tools to determine how to address shortages. Challenges include motivating members to get involved and take additional time. See report on Council Web site.

Radiation Science workforce panel meets March 13.

Future of Data Committee: moving away from discipline studies and moving toward survey approach. The method for the survey approach will be put together this summer, and will be implemented in the fall.

Past reports are on Sheps Center website (<http://www.shepscenter.unc.edu/hp>).

Sheps has applied to become national health research center, and is awaiting a reply.

Activity of the Executive Director – David Yoder

Communication is top priority. Dr. Yoder has been invited to represent the Council at panel meetings across the state. He will also be on a panel at the AHEC meeting.

Advisory Board: Structure will be announced at May’s meeting. Board should be in place by fall.

Dr. Yoder has been in touch with lobbyists across the state regarding issues of financial support for the Council.

Workforce and distribution issues justify asking for financial support in this tough fiscal environment.

Eastern AHEC’s hosting workforce summit on April 14. The Council and the Workforce Data Committee will both have posters on display at the meeting being held at the SunSpree

Resort at Wrightsville Beach.

Round Robin

Next Council Meeting – May 7, 9:30-12:30

Elizabeth Isler will be discussing allied health issues at the community college level.

The meeting will return to the GA board room

Gregory Cooper – NC HCAP

March 27 – Spring 2003 Health Professions forum (handout)

Career Fair

12:30: Lunch in the Trillium Room of the Friday Center

1:15: Association Presidents reconvene for a short meeting.