

# Noteworthy

May 2005



National Commission on Orthotic and Prosthetic Education

## Education Summit Held in New Orleans

On April 8-9, 2005, a group of 32 O&P education and clinical experts participated in an invitation only conference on the future of O&P education. The funding for this event was made possible through a grant secured by the Academy from the US Department of Education.

A final report from the conference will be published this summer. The overall consensus from the conference is the movement in the near future of having the entry-level education of orthotists and prosthetists be at the master's level.

More information will be available once the report is published.

## AOPA Puts Out Call for Poster Presentations

Due to an overwhelmingly positive response, poster presentations are back for the 2005 AOPA National Assembly in Las Vegas (Sept. 25-28, The Mirage). AOPA is now accepting abstracts or case studies to be considered for presentation. Submissions must be received by July 1.

Presentations should be a graphical display of clinical work in poster format using photographs, diagrams, flowcharts, graphs and any sample educational materials developed. Visit [www.AOPAnet.org](http://www.AOPAnet.org) to view submission guidelines.

Questions? Contact Mary Merkin at [mmerkin@AOPAnet.org](mailto:mmerkin@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0876, ext. 21.

## Accreditation Actions for Schools

At NCOPE's meeting held in March the following accreditation actions and recommendations were voted on:

- Recommend to CAAHEP continuing accreditation for California State University's baccalaureate and prosthetic certificate program
- One year extension for submission of self-study for reaccreditation of Francis Tuttle's technician program
- NCOPE developmental accreditation granted only for currently enrolled Eastern Michigan University students. Program to address some issues prior to moving forward.

## Outcome Standards Reviewed by ABC and Academy

NCOPE provided the boards of ABC and the Academy with a draft of the CAAHEP outcome educational standards for practitioner level. Both boards reviewed and provided comments back to NCOPE.

A new draft with the comments incorporated is currently being distributed back to the boards for adoption. Once that occurs NCOPE will present the document to CAAHEP for final adoption.



## CAAHEP Annual Meeting Held

CAAHEP held their 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Tucson, AZ on April 15-16, 2005. Meeting highlights included the following:

- National Update by Judith Eaton, President of Council for Higher Education Accreditation
- Topic of diversity in the health care professions
- Election of new officers for the 2005/06 term
- Honoring outgoing leaders

NCOPE's former vice-chairman, Grover "Buddy" Jeffcoat was honored for his three years service on the CAAHEP board of directors and his one year vice-chairmanship at an awards luncheon during their Annual Meeting.

At the annual business meeting, the commission approved the following vision and mission of CAAHEP:

**Vision:** *To be the premier agency for programmatic accreditation services.*  
**Mission:** *To assure quality health professions education that serves the public interest.*

One final note, CAAHEP's headquarters will be relocating by the end of 2005 from Chicago to Florida. The new address and timetable for the move will be available in near future.



## Board Nominees Sought

ABC has issued a call for nominations to fill one Director position and one Public Member Director position on its board of directors. The positions involve four-year terms beginning on December 1, 2005.

The directors will be voting members of the board and will participate in overseeing general management of the organization's affairs, such as policy development and governance of the organization. The Director position must be an ABC-certified practitioner who has had past involvement with ABC programs. The Public Member Director represents the interests of consumers, O&P patients, and other public groups.

ABC will review nominations submitted before August 1. For more information on the nomination process, contact Cathy Carter at [ccarter@abcop.org](mailto:ccarter@abcop.org).

## Mark Your Calendar

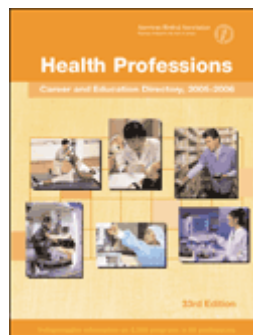
Please mark your calendar for the following upcoming dates:

- **June 17/18, 2005** Prosthetic ABC CPM exam
- **June 24/25, 2005** Orthotic ABC CPM exam
- **August 6, 2005** NCOPE's Summer Commission Meeting
- **September 1, 2005** application deadline for ABC certification
- **November 19, 2005** ABC written and written simulation exams
- **December 9/10, 2005** Orthotic ABC CPM exam
- **January 6/7, 2006** Prosthetic ABC CPM exam

## Career and Education Directory Published

The American Medical Association has published the 2005-2006 *Health Professions Career and Education Directory*. It provides the reader indispensable information on 6,700 educational programs at 2,500 institutions. This valuable resource provides key data from 22 accrediting agencies on 65 different health care occupations.

Orthotics and prosthetics educational programs are listed in this important resource tool. For more information or to attain a copy of the directory you can call 1-800-621-8335 or go on-line at [www.ama-assn.org](http://www.ama-assn.org) and go to catalog. The ISBN# is 1-57947-675-9.



## 2004 NCOPE Annual Report Published and Mailed

NCOPE published their 2004 Annual Report in March. The report highlights NCOPE's accreditation activities during 2004 as well as their financial position. Copies were available during the Academy's annual meeting in Orlando. NCOPE mailed a copy of the report to all NCOPE residency programs in early May.

## PT's Employment at Risk in Doctor's Office

"Organized medicine leaders are alarmed over recent legal decisions that prevent physicians from employing physical therapists and threaten to undermine their ability to employ other health care-related professions", according to an article in the May 2 American Medical News.

Currently, physicians in Delaware, Missouri and South Carolina may not employ PT's. For further information go to: <http://www.ama-assn.org/amednews/2005/05/02/prsc0502.htm>

## Congratulations to NCOPE's Residency Coordinator!

NCOPE is pleased to announce the arrival of Julie and George McMahon's son - Liam Thomas, who arrived eight weeks early. Liam is doing extremely well and will be home with mom and dad in a few short weeks.

Julie will be out on maternity leave the remainder of the summer. During her leave NCOPE has secured a temp to assist. NCOPE welcomes Micky Chanthaphone. If you have any questions on NCOPE or your residency please feel free to contact Robin Seabrook at 703-836-7114 ext. 225 or Micky at ext. 237.

