

November 1999 Noteworthy



National Commission on Orthotic and Prosthetic Education

Reno Wrap-up

AOPA's National Assembly was held in Reno, NV during the week of October 6 – 9, 1999. From all reports it was very successful. For NCOPE it was extremely successful. Chairman Brncick and Executive Director Robin Seabrook made presentations to the ABC, the Academy and the AOPA Board of Directors, seeking a grant for fiscal year 2000, sponsorship of NCOPE through CAAHEP and future representation on NCOPE.

NCOPE is happy to report the following outcomes from the presentation:

- A grant for fiscal year 2000 from ABC, the Academy and AOPA
- ABC and the Academy will Sponsor NCOPE through CAAHEP
- Mike Brncick, CPO and Rick Psonak, CPO were reappointed to second terms

Officers for 2000

On a conference call held on October 28, 1999, the commission elected their officers for next year. The individuals and their position are as follows:

- **Michael Brncick, CPO**
Chairman (completing second year of two year term)
- **Scott Hornbeak, CPO** Vice-Chairman
- **Buddy Jeffcoat, CO** – Secretary-Treasurer

NCOPE Incorporating

With the failure of consolidation this past summer by the memberships of the American Academy of Orthotists and Prosthetists (AAOP) and the American Orthotic and Prosthetic Association (AOPA), NCOPE is becoming

incorporated. The National Office is breaking apart by December 1, 1999 and each of the organizations (ABC, the Academy, AOPA and NCOPE) will be administratively independent.

NCOPE and ABC

NCOPE and ABC will be separate and independent organizations but will share administrative resources. The commission voted this past summer to align NCOPE with the certifying agency. It is a natural alliance between accreditation and certification and the commission recognized the importance of an ongoing dialogue and relationship with ABC said Mike Brncick, Chairman of NCOPE.

In addition, the ABC board also announced plans to vacate the current office space by May of 2001. NCOPE will move and relocate with ABC.

CAAHEP Fall Meeting

CAAHEP held their fall meeting on October 15-16, 1999 in Chicago, IL. NCOPE made two recommendations for accreditation, which were approved by the CAAHEP board of directors. California State University's bachelors program and certificate in orthotics and Rutgers University were awarded accreditation by CAAHEP.

ABC Application Deadline

The deadlines for the Spring/Summer 2000 Certified Practitioner Examinations is March 1, 2000 for traditional pathway applications. Applications will be available after December 1st. Call ABC at 703-836-7114 to request an application and a *Book of Rules*.

FRANCIS TUTTLE LAUNCHES NEW TECHNICIAN PROGRAM

Francis Tuttle Health Sciences Center in Oklahoma City inaugurated its new O&P Technician program this Fall. Openings are available for new students in January, and during the spring and summer semester. The program will award both certificates and an A.A.S. degree through a cooperative agreement with Oklahoma City Community College.

If interested in receiving an application packet, contact Anita Walker, Advisor, Career Planning Center, at (405) 717-4238. Or, call Dan Ramsey, CPO, Program Director, at (405) 717-4198; by FAX (405) 717-4789; or by email: dramsey@francistuttle.com

Resident Director Workshop Held

NCOPE sponsored a workshop on Wednesday, October 6, 1999 at the Annual Assembly in Reno, NV. The workshop titled *Assessing the Resident During Their Residency* provided the participants with a wealth of information on the importance of assessing the resident as well as some future collaboration activity between ABC and NCOPE.

The number of attendees was low, however, a second workshop will be held at the Academy's Annual Meeting in March 2000 in San Diego, CA. Please see other articles on upcoming workshops in this edition of *Noteworthy*.

Active or Inactive

It is that time of year again when NCOPE will be asking every residency site if they want to maintain an active status or inactive status for the year 2000.

Active status means NCOPE will promote your residency site on our web site as well as inform any resident looking for a position that the site is active and hiring. Inactive means you will not be listed on the web site. You may change your status at anytime with NCOPE. If you are listed as inactive, **you may still accept a resident.** If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Robin Seabrook at rseabrook@ncope.org.

Academy Looking for Papers to Publish

Residents who wish to see their names in print now have that chance through the Academy. The American Academy of Orthotists and Prosthetists publishes the *Best of the Resident Research Series*, a publication devoted exclusively to the research required of NCOPE residents.

Resident papers received by the Academy undergo a review process by the Academy's Research and Development Committee and the Scientific Societies. The best of the papers are then recommended for publication. The *Best of the Resident Research Series* is a member benefit and is published four to five times a year.

Residents who wish to be considered for the *Best of the Resident Research Series* may submit their completed research projects to the Academy:

Best of the Resident Research Series
AAOP
1650 King St., Ste. 500
Alexandria, VA 22314

Residents Receive Subsidized Membership

NCOPE residents may join the Academy and pay no dues their first year. The Academy subsidizes the first year of membership for NCOPE residents while providing full member benefits.* Benefits include the *JPO*, the *Academician*, the *Best of the Resident Research Series*, the *Thranhardt Lecture Series*, and steep discounts on all educational conferences.

To join, please call Catherine Hassinger or Brenda Galloway at 703-836-7118 or email academy@oandp.org. Residents pay only a one-time \$15 application fee.

*Voting and holding office are reserved for Active Members

Mark Your Calendar

- On-site visits to the University of Texas, November 29-30, 1999 and Century College January 18-19, 2000
- Notices being mailed for active vs. non-active status in January 2000
- NCOPE's winter meeting February 11-12, 2000
- March 1st ABC application deadline for board examinations
- The Academy's Annual Meeting March 15-18, 2000, San Diego, CA
- March 15, 2000 NCOPE Workshop, San Diego, CA
- April 28-29, 2000 CAAHEP Annual Meeting in San Antonio, TX

Happy Thanksgiving!

The NCOPE staff wishes everyone a very safe and happy holiday.



NCOPE Will Hold Workshop in San Diego

NCOPE will present a workshop for resident directors and/or clinical supervisors involved in residency at the Academy's Annual Scientific Symposium in San Diego, CA on Wednesday, March 15, 2000 from 2 PM - 5 PM. The title of the workshop is *Assessing the Resident During Their Residency*. NCOPE wants to encourage each and every site to have at least one person from their residency attend. Objectives of the workshop are as follows:

- Learn the evaluation process during residency
- Learn the role of evaluation during the residency
- Become familiar with the new quarterly and final evaluation forms
- Introduce case study forms for resident use
- Learn how residency may be tied to the ABC examination process in the future

Survey Delayed

NCOPE's survey to residency directors and O&P educators has been delayed in mailing from the original date of September. The survey will be mailed by November 20, 1999. The purpose of the survey is to receive feedback on how well the current primary education standards are serving the profession via the schools and preparation of residents for their residency. We need every participant to complete the survey. Please return the surveys by December 30, 1999. If you have any questions upon receipt of the survey, please do not hesitate to contact Robin Seabrook at rseabrook@ncope.org.