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EAST CENTRAL REGION, ACPE

INDIANA, KENTUCKY, MICHIGAN, OHIO & PITTSBURGH, PA.

www.ecr-acpe.org

FRANKLY SPEAKING
May 2002

Over the Top!

When I take my grandchildren flying, they clamor for Grandpa to “do a dipsy!” They are referring to a brief maneuver that is produced by displacing the aircraft from level flight by a sudden, brief but firm pull back on the controls followed immediately by an equally firm push on the controls. The effect is like going too fast over a sudden rise in a country road—the occupants of the plane are lifted off the seat and, for a second or so, we are all weightless. It is an exhilarating feeling—better than a roller coaster because there is no harsh mechanical rumbling, vibrating or jerking—just a smooth, weightless moment with a fluttery feeling in the stomach. Before you can panic, it is all over.

This exhilarating feeling of “over the top” can also occur in other places in our lives, when we have been working hard on some project or goal—hauling back on the controls to make it happen. When it becomes clear that we have reached our objective there is an undeniable feeling of excitement and relief that is very pleasant, if not as visceral as a “dipsy.” Last year I had that feeling when I mailed off the completed copies of our Accreditation Self Study to the Site Team. This morning, I had another experience being over the top: I received an e-mail from ACPE’s Conference planner, Arabella Young, giving the planning committee the latest numbers for Pittsburgh: The Hotel is sold out, we have almost 400 registrants, 168 going on the boat ride, and 395 registrants for the Presidential Dinner. Clearly, we are over the top!

Sitting here letting the realization settle in, I can now admit to myself how much anxiety I have carried about this event, as I measure it by the immense relief I feel in seeing the indicators of success. I have had a peripheral part in the details of planning this event, but I have had a large part in causing it to be what it is. It was nearly four years ago that the East Central Region began to reflect on the fact that “it would be our turn” to host the national meeting this year.

Only a couple years before that, ECR had annexed Pittsburgh into our region, and I made the suggestion that we look at Pittsburgh as a possible site for the meeting. There was considerable ambivalence about this suggestion. The question of practicability was raised. It was “way off” at the eastern edge of the region, and we had only two centers there. Travel for the planning committee could be a problem, and having enough local personnel to handle local arrangements seemed a concern. Then too, there was the mental image of Pittsburgh. Many people believed Pittsburgh to be a dirty, uninteresting city, a part of the aging rust belt of former heavy industry cities of the northeast.

It took a lot of selling in those early days to convince, even the folks of our own region that Pittsburgh was a vital, interesting, beautiful new city with lovely hotels and many cultural and entertainment venues, to say nothing of the plethora of ethnic dining possibilities. Ultimately, with some trepidation, we took the plunge and sent the official letter of invitation to ACPE to meet in Pittsburgh in the Spring of 2002. Immediately, Phil Williams left West Penn Hospital and they closed the Center, leaving only Gene Reddel at VA as the lone CPE Center in the city. This did not do much for our confidence in our choice.

When we made our trip to Pittsburgh to look at hotels, things began to look up. The committee became very excited about the city and the hotels and the commitment to the task grew. We also developed a theme that

grew out of the metaphor that stares us in the face out of the hotel windows, the confluence of the rivers at the point, forming the mighty Ohio River. At the very joining of the rivers there is a fountain, spouting high into the air, water that comes from the deep underground river that lies beneath the city. What a symbol to lead us to consider the roots of our spirituality and the many ways in which it is lived out in the growing diversity of our organization. Hence the theme, *Depth and Diversity: Exploring Our Spiritual Heritage*.

We have had a wonderful committee under the strong leadership of Lin Barnett. We have had invaluable help from Arabella Young, the Conference Planner, and Gene Reddel, the lone supervisor in Pittsburgh turns out to know everyone in town, and that helped. So perhaps you can understand why, reading Arabella's e-mail, assuring us that we were "over the top" produced the emotional equivalent of a "dipsy" for me.

A couple days ago, when Ted Hodge, the regional chair and I were discussing what we wanted to do with the time set aside in Pittsburgh for Regional Meetings, he suggested we might just want to celebrate. Today I feel we could make no better use of that time. We have a lot to celebrate—many of you have contributed in many ways to make this meeting a success. By the time you read this, it will be over, and we will all know how it turned out. I, for one, am going to head for Pittsburgh with a light heart and the anticipation of going to a great, weeklong party. We have a great city, a great hotel, a great program, and a great organization! I hope when we are all reading this in the newsletter we will be able to smile and say, "Yeah, that was a great party—it was 'over the top!'"

Collegially,

Frank



(Belated) Certification News From National!!!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW ASSOCIATE SUPERVISORS!!!!

Rhonda Gilligan Gillespie (Fall 2001)

Robert McGeeney (Fall 2001)

Barbara Bullock (REM 2002)

We welcome them to the joys of being a Certified Associate Supervisor and wish them well!! (The Certification Chair apologizes for not being prompt with these best wishes!)

Certification Deadlines

The Regional Certification Committee will hold its meeting in Brown County, Indiana, on **September 19, 2002**, prior to the East Central Region conference. If you plan to meet the committee on this date, **the application deadline is August 2, 2002**. This means that **both** your application form and your check should be in the hands of Mary Altenbaumer by that date. Currently, the ECR website will **not** allow you to apply on-line. You must print out the application form and submit it, along with your check, to Mary via snail-mail.

After the schedule is set, you will receive a copy of the docket (no later than August 16th) indicating the time of your meeting and who will be on your committee. Your materials are to be in the hands of your committee members no later than **August 21, 2002**.

Questions and/or concerns can be addressed to - Rev. Mary Altenbaumer, Regional Certification Chair, St. Vincent Hospital, 2001 W. 86th St., Indianapolis, IN 46240 [Phone: 317-338-3168; FAX: 317-338-2987] E-mail: mlaltenb@stvincent.org



Pastoral Care & Concern:

Liston Mills, ACPE Supervisor from the SW Region, died peacefully April 30. He was at home with Jennie and Sarah. His funeral was held May 3, at Immanuel Baptist Church in Nashville, TN.

Job Opportunity:

- The Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland, OH - Seeking an **ACPE Supervisor** as Coordinator of Clinical Pastoral Education. Responsibilities include managing a well-established CPE program, CPE supervision, providing pastoral care to patients, families, and staff with other administrative functions. Qualifications include, but are not limited to, a Master of Divinity degree, certification, ordination and ecclesiastical endorsement. Competitive salary and benefits. Send inquiries or resume to: The Rev. Patrick M. Persaud, Pastoral Care, H19, The Cleveland Clinic Foundation, 9500 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH. 44195. [Phone: 216/444-2518; FAX: 216/445-9678] E-mail: persaup@ccf.org

Calendar of Events

- **April 24-27, 2002, ACPE Conference**, Hilton Hotel, Pittsburgh, PA.
- **July 11, 2002 ECR CPE Day** - Richmond, IN. at Bethany and Earlham Seminaries
- **September 20-21, 2002 Pastoral Care Associates Meeting**, Brown County Inn, Nashville, IN.

Information for the June Newsletter must be received by May 29, 2002. Send to: Regional Business Office, 7672 Cottonwood Lane, Dexter, MI. 48130 Telephone: 1/800-336-5099; or E-mail lykbyl@aol.com

Supervisory Education in the Region

Supervisory Candidates

Ruth Alpers
Carrie Culleen
Jim Mitchell
Jon Paulus
Tim Waits
Pat Shelden-Ward
Yoshiya Togami

Officers of the Region

Frank Ciampa, Director
Mary Altenbaumer, Certification
Kim Barnett, Accreditation
Alan Bowman, Board of Reps
Urias Beverly, Nominations
Billie Beverly, Secretary
Larry Brandon, Budget & Investment
Carl Buxo, REM & Professional Ethics
Carol Green, Board of Reps
Ted Hodge, Chair
Robert Leas, History
Jeannette Lucas, Standards
BJ Myers-Bradley, Clinical Members
Kathy Nininger, Chair Elect
Larry Smith, Long Range Planning
Henry Uy, Research
(Does not reflect all the changes made at the Feb Conference)

ECR/ACPE
7672 Cottonwood Lane
Dexter, MI. 48130

**ACPE EAST CENTRAL REGION
BUSINESS MEETING, PITTSBURGH, PA.
April 25, 2002**

Professional Ethics Commission Representative Report

The Professional Ethics Commission (PEC) met from Sunday April 21 to Wednesday April 24, 2002 at the Pittsburgh Hilton, the venue of the Spring ACPE meeting.

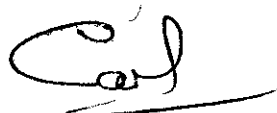
The Agenda for our meetings covered a broad spectrum of topics within the purview of professional ethics. Among these were:

- A review of the status of complaints that have arisen in various regions.
- A joint meeting with the Certification Commission was held, to discuss matters of common concern.
- The PEC reviewed the scope of professional ethics, and reiterated that through review of the themes present in issues brought to the foreground at this meeting, ethical issues encompass a broad range of subjects, such as confidentiality, late supervisory evaluations, the existence of hostile environments at CPE centers, etc.
- We also considered ways in which the PEC might be supportive to CPE centers in suggesting materials for possible inclusion in various curricula relating to the broader dimensions of professional ethics.
- Also claiming a portion of our attention was the development of a system of self-reporting, similar to that used by organizations such as the APC, APA, etc.

Coming out of our meetings are the following reminders and recommendations:

- Centers need to have a Complaint procedure in place, and students must know what that process is. Also, the procedure and local process should be "user-friendly."
- Cases coming to the regional representatives must be in writing, must have documented the specific standard that the complainant alleges is being violated, and must have already engaged the local process.
- The regional budgets should include adequate provision for complaints and hearings.

Respectfully submitted,



D. Carl Buxo.

