

# RRC NEWS

## COLON AND RECTAL SURGERY



Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education

FALL 2008

### REVIEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PATRICE G. BLAIR, MPH, EX-OFFICIO  
JAIME BOHL, MD, RESIDENT  
ERIC J. DOZOIS, MD  
BRUCE A. ORKIN, MD  
DAVID J. SCHOETZ, JR., MD, EX-OFFICIO  
CLIFFORD L. SIMMANG, MD  
MICHAEL J. STAMOS, MD  
ERIC G. WEISS, MD, VICE-CHAIR  
W. DOUGLAS WONG, MD, CHAIR

### RRC STAFF

LARRY D. SULTON, PhD  
SENIOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
312.755.5027  
LDS@ACGME.ORG

LOUISE KING, MS  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
312.755-5498  
LKING@ACGME.ORG

SANDRA BENITEZ  
ACCREDITATION ADMINISTRATOR  
312.755.7472  
SBENITEZ@ACGME.ORG

ALLEAN MORROW-YOUNG  
ACCREDITATION ASSISTANT  
312.755.5038  
AMH@ACGME.ORG

ACGME  
515 N STATE ST  
STE 2000  
CHICAGO, IL 60654  
[WWW.ACGME.ORG](http://WWW.ACGME.ORG)

**RRC NEWS IS A BIENNIAL PUBLICATION THAT PROVIDES REVIEW COMMITTEE AND ACGME UPDATES. PLEASE CONTACT THE EDITOR FOR SUGGESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER: [KREINHOLD@ACGME.ORG](mailto:KREINHOLD@ACGME.ORG).**

### RRC Accreditation Decisions: September 2008 Meeting

During the September 19, 2008 RRC meeting there were a total of 12 programs reviewed. The accreditation decisions are noted below:

Total Accredited Programs:	47
Initial Accreditation	03
Continued Accreditation	04
Deferral	01
Other requests (progress reports, temporary increases, changes to participating sites, etc.)	04

### Resident Selection Process

The RRC has established new criteria for selecting the resident member. The resident member of the RRC for Colon and Rectal Surgery will be selected by the RRC from nominations submitted by program directors. The resident member will serve a two-year term. Residents are considered full RRC members who vote on policy matters, review up to three programs per meeting, and serve as a member of the ACGME Resident Council. The resident member is required to attend the ACGME Orientation Program for new RRC members prior to their first RRC meeting. In addition, they will be required to attend two ACGME Resident Council meetings and two RRC meetings annually. The resident applicant must be available to attend these meetings and to devote the preparatory time required for this position. Travel and meeting expenses are reimbursed by the ACGME. The next resident member will be selected in May 2009.

### Notification of RRC Accreditation Decisions

About one week following the meeting, the program director/DIO receives an email informing him/her of the accreditation status. However, an e-mail notification is not sent for a proposed adverse action or adverse action. The "status" e-mail is sent to the following individuals:

1. For the results of a specialty program review, notification is sent to the program director with a copy to the DIO of the sponsoring institution;
2. For the results of the review of a dependent subspecialty, notification is sent to its program director, and copies are sent to the core specialty program director and the DIO.

After the Review Committee meeting, the program director and DIO will receive e-mail notification that the letter of notification (LON), with the complete accreditation information, has been posted in ADS. Beginning

with Review Committee meetings that occurred after July 1, 2008, Review Committees have adhered to the following deadlines for these notifications:

1. Status e-mails will be sent five business days after the review committee meeting to the program director.
2. Letters of notification will be posted within 60 days of the review committee meeting.

### **Upcoming Program Requirements Revision for Colon and Rectal Surgery**

At its September 19, 2008 meeting, the RRC discussed the upcoming revision of the colon and rectal surgery program requirements. Review Committees must revise existing requirements every five years to reflect changes in the specialty. Working with program directors in the specialty, along with other stakeholders, the RRC and its staff solicit suggestions to create preliminary recommendations to make major revisions to the existing requirements. This newsletter will announce the timeline for the program requirements revision once it is developed.

### **New Zip Code for ACGME**

ACGME's zip code changed on July 1, 2008. Anything that is mailed or sent by Fed-Ex must now reference zip code 60654. Please note that our PO Box zip code, 60610, has not changed.

### **Measuring Competencies Outcomes**

The addition of the competencies as an integral part of resident education has been an evolutionary process. Initially, program directors and faculty were expected to be aware of the six competencies; then, the competencies were integrated into the goals and objectives, and resident evaluations. Now, programs must measure the outcomes of competency-based education. The RRC has developed some sample measures, and these are posted on the ACGME website: [http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/resEvalSystem/eval\\_list.asp](http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/resEvalSystem/eval_list.asp). However, the RRC encourages programs to be innovative in developing and using their own outcome measures.

### **Innovation and Experimentation at the Program Level**

Program directors may wish to implement an innovative project. The [Program Experimentation and Innovative Projects Proposal Form](#) is located on the Colon and Rectal Surgery website. The DIO must sign the proposal indicating review and approval of the sponsoring institution's Graduate Medical Education Committee. Proposals should not exceed five pages in length; attach additional documents as numbered

appendices.

### **Accreditation Data System**

The ACGME's online ADS alerts the RRC to changes in programs. Program directors should update ADS to:

- Notify the RRC of any changes in their program (i.e., new program director or adding or deleting a site)
- Request a change which needs RRC approval (i.e., an increase in resident complement. The request for a permanent increase in the resident complement must include a copy of the institutional data for all participating sites. Only one academic or one calendar year of data is necessary.)
- Submit the academic year "Annual Update" (ADS staff will e-mail the deadline for updating faculty and resident rosters)
- Prepare for an upcoming site visit (the ADS will populate many sections of the PIF with the data entered)

Address your questions or concerns about ADS to the ADS representative for Colon and Rectal Surgery, Emilio Villatoro at 312-755-7117.

### **"Red Flags" Help Programs Recognize Potential Issues**

In the [February 2008](#) issue of the ACGME e-Bulletin, an article entitled "Nine 'Red Flags' in Accreditation Site Visits and Reviews" by members of the ACGME Field Staff provides observations that may raise questions about program quality and compliance with program and institutional requirements. This may be of particular interest to programs preparing for upcoming site visits.

### **Meeting Dates and Agenda Closing Dates**

Meeting: March 20, 2009  
Agenda Closing: January 11, 2009

Meeting: September 25, 2009  
Agenda Closing: July 10, 2009

### **Program Evaluation by Fellows: Keeping Responses Confidential When There is Only One Fellow**

The ACGME requirement that fellows provide confidential evaluations of the program can be a challenge

with fewer than two fellows. Across specialties, program directors have arrived at creative methods that manage to maintain confidentiality of fellows. Fellow evaluations may be collected over a period of a few years and grouped data is then reported every two to three years. The program director's challenge is to balance the program's need for feedback in order to make necessary adjustments towards program improvements versus fellow confidentiality that can result in delays of valuable feedback and program improvements. Additionally, the coordinator or DIO, (not directly involved in fellow education), may solicit feedback from the fellows and residents who rotate on the service, and collate and report general findings to the program director.

### Council of Review Committee Residents

The Council of Review Committee Residents (CRCR) is composed of physicians in-training, and their unique perspective makes them invaluable members of the 28 residency review committees to which they belong. The CRCR meets in February and September, and provides advice and feedback to the ACGME Board through its chair, Karen Hsu Blatman, MD. Dr. Hsu Blatman is one of two ACGME resident directors of the ACGME Board of Directors (the AMA appoints a resident director from its Resident and Fellow Section), and she also serves on the ACGME Strategic Initiatives Committee. Adeline Deladisma, MD, vice chair, serves on the ACGME Monitoring Committee.

In recent years, the CRCR has provided feedback on the redesign of the ACGME resident questionnaire, and it has recommended a change in the institutional requirements to allow for a fairer grievance process when the designated institutional official is also the program director. The CRCR has also voiced concerns with the Federation of State Medical Boards about its "unusual circumstance" question on the verification credentialing form.



*Pictured above: From Back Row (left to right): Miriam D. Post, MD, Pathology; Meredith Riebschleger, MD,*

*Pediatrics; Monica E. Rho, MD, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation; Jeffrey H. Kozlow, MD, Plastic Surgery; Samuel Seiden, MD, Anesthesiology; Kayla Pope, MD, Psychiatry; Todd J. Mondzelewski, MD, Ophthalmology.*

*Middle Row: Matthew M. Poppe, MD, Radiation Oncology; Ruth Ann Vleugels, MD, Dermatology; Brian Lane, MD, PhD, Urology; Michael L. DiLuna, MD, Neurological Surgery; Adeline Deladisma, MD, Surgery; Joanna R. Fair, MD, Nuclear Medicine.*

*Front Row: Esther J. Cheung, MD, Otolaryngology; Rupa J. Dainer, MD, Institutional Review Committee; Karen Hsu Blatman, MD, Internal Medicine (and baby Penelope); Jaime Lynn Bohl, MD, Colon and Rectal Surgery; Gretchen Glaser, MD; Obstetrics and Gynecology.*

*Not pictured: Jose A. Carillo, MD, Neurology, Molly Cohen-Osher, Family Medicine, Brian P. Freeman, MD, Internal Medicine, James Huang, MD, Thoracic Surgery, Shauna Lawless, MD, Preventive Medicine, Keri A. Reese, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery, Jessica B. Robbins, MD, Diagnostic Radiology, Benjamin P. Soule, MD, Allergy and Immunology, Sarah Taylor, MD, Transitional Year, Michael J. Tocci, MD, Emergency Medicine, Audrey C. Woerner, MD, Medical Genetics.*

### Courage to Teach, Courage to Lead, and John C. Gienapp Awardees

Eleven program directors and three designated institutional officials have been chosen to receive the Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach and Courage to Lead awards. These annual awards, selected from a large pool of nominees, honor outstanding teachers and leaders in graduate medical education.

The Courage to Teach Award is given to program directors, nominated by their peers and students, who have innovative residency program curricula, and who have improved graduate medical education and served as exemplary role models for residents. The award is named for Parker J. Palmer, PhD, a sociologist and teacher who wrote *The Courage to Teach*.

The Parker J. Palmer Courage to Lead Award is given to designated institutional officials, who are responsible for all ACGME-accredited residency programs at an institution, for creating an optimum learning environment for residents; encouraging the ethical, professional, and personal development of residents; and ensuring safe and appropriate patient care.

The Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach and Courage to Lead award recipients will receive plaques and checks for \$1,000 at a luncheon held during the ACGME's Annual Educational Conference, which will take place March 5-8 at the Gaylord Texan Resort and Convention Center in Dallas. The award recipients will also be invited to attend an educational retreat next May at the Fetzer Institute in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

The 2008-09 Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach and Courage to Lead recipients are:

### **Courage to Teach Awardees**

- Michael S. Beeson, MD, emergency medicine, Summa Health System, Akron, Ohio
- James Burks, MD, internal medicine, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas
- Peter Carek, MD, family medicine, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, South Carolina
- Edmund Cibas, MD, cytopathology, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts
- Nancy Gaba, MD, obstetrics and gynecology, George Washington University, Washington, DC
- Sheela Kapre, MD, internal medicine, San Joaquin General Hospital, French Camp, California
- Gail Manos, MD, psychiatry, Naval Medical Center, Portsmouth, Virginia
- D. Karl Montague, MD, urology, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio  
(recently retired with 31 years experience as program director)
- Lori Schuh, MD, neurology, Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, Michigan
- James Valentine, MD, surgery, University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, Dallas, Texas
- Richard Welling, MD, surgery, Good Samaritan Hospital, Cincinnati, Ohio.

### **Parker J. Palmer Courage to Lead Awardees**

- Lois Bready, MD, University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio, Texas
- Diane Hartmann, MD, University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester, New York
- Andrew Filak, MD, University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, Cincinnati, Ohio

### **John C. Gienapp Awardee**

William H. Hartmann, MD was selected for the John C. Gienapp Award, which honors him for his significant lifetime contributions to the ACGME and graduate medical education. The award is named after the

ACGME's first executive director, John C. Gienapp, PhD, who headed the ACGME from its inception in 1981 to 1997.

### **RRC Webpage Redesign**

During this past year, the RRC webpages were redesigned. The new user-friendly format has a new look for each page, and allows users to quickly locate information on the RRC pages through new menus and navigation bars; content has been organized into specific categories, and keywords have been updated to improve search engine results. A link to your RRC staff listing and their contact information, is located at the top of the page. The contact list is organized by subject for easy access to the staff member responsible for key areas so that your questions are answered in a timely manner. The new Colon and Rectal Surgery webpage is located here: [http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/navPages/nav\\_060.asp](http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/navPages/nav_060.asp).

### **2009 ACGME Educational Conference**

*March 5-8, 2009 in Grapevine, Texas*

Each year, the ACGME Annual Educational Conference provides a venue for graduate medical educators to learn more about the accreditation process and ways to enhance residency program quality related to ACGME initiatives, such as general competencies, educational outcome assessment, and duty hours.

The 2009 conference theme, "Shaping the Future," will offer more than 80 sessions clearly focused on the topics of education, assessment, the learning environment, and accreditation. The Conference will begin with an international pre-conference titled "Promoting Good Learning and Safe, Effective Care: A Five-Year Review of the ACGME's Common Duty Hour Standards," as well as an introductory pre-course for new program directors and coordinators.

Attendees and speakers can register here: [http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/meetings/me\\_EducConf\\_09\\_Speakers.asp](http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/meetings/me_EducConf_09_Speakers.asp)