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Message from Mary Jane Harris
Dear Colleagues:

The Department of Accreditation is pleased to be sending you this sixth electronic edition of CAPTE ACCREDITATION UPDATE.

Though this is a relatively short newsletter, it belies the fact that the past few months have seen a lot of activity in the Department with more to come. Most of our recent activities have been directed at implementing the changes to the Candidacy Process that CAPTE adopted in October, but that was on top of our many other ongoing activities. I encourage you to review the information contained herein so that you can keep abreast of the changes that have occurred or are yet to come.

We look forward to working with you to improve the accreditation process, and advance the quality of physical therapy education.

As always, if you have questions or we can be of assistance to you, please let us know.

Mary Jane Harris

NUMBER OF PT and PTA PROGRAMS as of January 28, 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ACCREDITED</th>
<th>DEVELOPING</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PT US programs</td>
<td>199 institutions supporting 211 programs</td>
<td>4 institutions developing 4 programs</td>
<td>203 institutions supporting/developing 215 programs</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS/MPT DPT</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>PT Non-US Programs</td>
<td>3 institutions supporting 3 programs</td>
<td>3 institutions supporting 3 programs</td>
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<td>Canadian Programs</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA</td>
<td>224 institutions supporting 237 programs</td>
<td>44 institutions developing 44 programs</td>
<td>266 institutions supporting 279 programs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>451 accredited programs</td>
<td>46 developing programs</td>
<td>497 accredited/developing programs</td>
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At its Fall 2008 meeting, held on October 24-29, 2008, CAPTE made the following accreditation status decisions about education programs for physical therapists and physical therapist assistants.

A list of the programs reviewed at the meeting and the decisions that were made can be accessed at [http://www.apta.org/Content/ContentGroups/Accreditation/CAPTE/CAPTEDecisionsOctober2008_112108.pdf](http://www.apta.org/Content/ContentGroups/Accreditation/CAPTE/CAPTEDecisionsOctober2008_112108.pdf).

### Candidacy Process Revised

The significant increase in the number of developing programs over the past two years, as well as many issues that have arisen during reviews of many Applications for Candidacy prompted CAPTE to consider whether its current processes could be improved. After a thorough discussion of the many factors that influence the candidacy process, CAPTE adopted the following changes in the process. Specifics about the revised process can be found in PART 7 of CAPTE’s *Rules of Practice and Procedure* which can be accessed at [http://www.apta.org/AM/TemplateRedirect.cfm?Template=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=19992](http://www.apta.org/AM/TemplateRedirect.cfm?Template=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=19992).

1. Attendance by two representatives of the institution (one of which must be the program director) at a Developing Program Workshop prior to submission of the Application for Candidacy is now required. The one-day Workshops are offered quarterly by Department of Accreditation staff at APTA Headquarters. [§7.4(b)]
2. The definition of a bona fide Application for Candidacy (AFC) has been clarified and strengthened. [§7.6(b)] Determination that an AFC is bona fide is a staff decision based on the specific list of expectations. AFCs determined not to be bona fide will be returned to the institution.
3. There will no longer be a preliminary review of the AFC by a Reader/Consultant followed by submission of a revised document. As a result, the process will be shorter.
4. In order to “compensate” for the elimination of the Reader/Consultant’s preliminary review, the expectations for Candidacy have been clarified and where appropriate expanded to better explicate CAPTE’s expectations [§7.17]. Additionally, the AFC report format now includes lists of “Evidence of Satisfactory Progress Toward Compliance” for each criterion. This is parallel to the “Evidence of Compliance” lists included in the Self-study Report format. It is CAPTE’s belief that the expanded and improved information will provide sufficient guidance to institutions as they develop new programs.
5. The title of Reader/Consultant has been changed to Candidacy Reviewer. In concert with the new process, the Candidacy Reviewer’s responsibilities will be to determine whether or not the AFC includes the requested information, verify that information during a two day on-site visit and provide commentary about the quality of the information provided.
6. Additionally, review of the Applications for Candidacy will now be performed by the CAPTE Central Panel.

It is CAPTE’s hope that these changes will facilitate the candidacy process, improve the information available about developing programs and result in candidacy decisions that are made in the best interest of the institutions, programs, and prospective students.
Other Rules Changes Adopted

In addition to the changes in PART 7 related to the candidacy process, changes have been adopted in several other parts of the CAPTE Rules of Practice and Procedure. The major changes are described below. The revised Rules can be accessed at http://www.apta.org/AM/TemplateRedirect.cfm?template=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=32651

As usual, programs are advised to replace outdated Parts if you are keeping a hard copy of the Rules.

PART 3 ORGANIZATION, ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF CAPTE AND STAFF has been amended to clarify the roles of the panels and facilitate the process of program review [§3.7(b)(12), (c)(1), (c)(4)].

PART 4 OPERATION OF CAPTE has been amended in two places: the statement regarding disclosure of decisions by institutions has been revised [§4.16(c)] and previous section §4.17(b) has been deleted.

PART 9 PROCEDURES FOR REPORTING AND APPROVAL OF PROGRAM CHANGES has been amended to provide a consolidated list of all changes that must be reported or pre-approved in §9.1 and §9.2. The list serves as a directory to the location of other information about specific reporting requirements. A definition of a consortium has been added [§9.11] and editorial/explanatory changes have been made in several other sections.

PART 10 RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PROBATION has been amended to add a new reason for administrative probation: failure to schedule an on-site visit when requested [§10.1(b)(2)].

PART 13 RECONSIDERATION OF ADVERSE CANDIDATE FOR ACCREDITATION STATUS DECISIONS has been amended to alter the timelines for submission of documents consistent with the new Candidacy processes. [§13.5, 13.7, 13.8, 13.13, 13.15, 13.16] several editorial changes for clarity have also been made,

PART 16 FEES has been amended to reflect increased fees for special visits to cover rising travel costs. [§16.4, 16.5]

UPDATES

Staff Changes

There have been some changes in the staffing of the Department of Accreditation. In addition to the hiring of Doug Clarke to succeed Lisa Zuber as Associate Director for PTA Programs (which we reported in the previous issue of this newsletter), the other members of the staff PTA Team have also changed. Linda Anderzhon is now the Assistant Director for PTA Programs. She replaced Eva Donley who took a position with the Foundation for Physical Therapy. We have also welcomed Sandy Ridout to the PTA staff team as Senior Administrative Assistant; Sandy worked in Accreditation previously. Additionally, we are currently looking to fill the Senior Administrative Assistant for the staff PT Team.

Call for Nominees to the Cadre of On-site Reviewers

The Department of Accreditation is seeking nominations for members of the Cadre of On-site Reviewers. While there is always a need for PT and PTA faculty/program directors, we are particularly in need of clinicians and higher education administrators for both PT and PTA teams. If you know of individuals in these categories who would be good on-site reviewers and who are likely to have a reasonable amount to give to the process, please provide us with their names and contact information and we will send information to them. Thank you.
COMPUTERIZATION
Progress toward the implementation of our new accreditation management system continues. We are on track for implementation of the system for submission of Applications for Candidacy in mid- to late 2009 and Self-study Reports for visits scheduled in late 2009 to early 2010.

ON-SITE REVIEWER TRAINING
Work on revamping our on-site reviewer training process continues. With the launch of the APTA Learning Center, we will have a mechanism to complete the development of web-based modules related to accreditation processes and expectations that will be used for training purposes. Hopefully, this process will now move more quickly.

CRITERIA REVIEW AND REVISION
This project has been slowed by the other initiatives which have taken some precedence. We hope to get working on this activity during the early spring 2009.

Number of DPT Programs Static since August
The number of accredited physical therapist education programs that are approved to offer the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) degree remains at 196 as of January 1, 2009.

Accredited PT Programs: 1979-2008

No new DPT programs have been added to the list of accredited DPT programs since the last edition of this newsletter.
New Program Development Continues

The Department of Accreditation has added only three new programs to the list of developing programs since August though we continue to see an increase in the number of inquiries regarding the development of new physical therapist and physical therapist assistant programs. Currently (as of January 28) there are 48 institutions developing physical therapy programs: 4 PT programs and 42 PTA programs.

NEW PT PROGRAMS
- One program has achieved Candidate for Accreditation and is being implemented
  University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
- One program has submitted an Application for Candidacy
  Touro University (NV)
- Two programs have hired a program director, but have not yet submitted an Application for Candidacy:
  Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions (UT)
  University of North Texas Health Science Center (TX)

NEW PTA PROGRAMS
- Nine programs have achieved Candidate for Accreditation status and are scheduled for initial accreditation decisions in April 2009:
  Chippewa Valley Technical College (WI)
  Elgin Community College (IL)
  Horry-Georgetown Technical College (SC)
  Mid-Michigan Community College (MI)
  Northland Community and Technical College (TX)
  Pima Medical Institute–Seattle Campus (WA)
  Technical College of the Low Country (SC)
  Washtenaw Community College (MI)
  Western Technical College (TX)
- Eleven programs have achieved Candidate for Accreditation status and are being implemented:
  Herzing College (FL)
  Laramie County Community College (WY)
  Louisiana College (LA)
  Mercy College of Health Sciences (IA)
  Mohave Community College (AZ)
  Nebraska Methodist College (NE)
  New England Institute of Technology (RI)
  North Metro Technical College (GA)
  Pima Medical Institute-Mesa Campus (AZ)
  Surry Community College (NC)
  South University-Tampa (FL)
  Western Technical College (TX)
- Eight programs have submitted an Application for Candidacy and are scheduled for candidacy decisions in April 2009:
  Arkansas Technical College (AR)
  Brown Mackie College–Fort Wayne (IN)
  Concorde Career College (CA)
  Fox College (IL)
  Pima Medical Institute/Albuquerque Campus (NM)
  Remington College–Cleveland West Campus (OH)
  Lake Washington Technical College (WA)
  Lane Community College (OR)
  Pima Medical Institute/Albuquerque Campus (NM)
  Remington College–Cleveland West Campus (OH)
- Five programs have submitted an Application for Candidacy:
  American Career College (CA)
  Dunwoody College (MN)
  Edison Community College (OH)
  Kankakee Community College (IL)
  Norwalk Community College (CT)
- Eleven programs have hired a program director, but have not yet submitted an Application for Candidacy:
  Antonelli College (MS)
  College of the Sequoias (CA)
  Coyne American Institute (IL)
  Dixie State College of Utah (UT)
  Draughons Junior College (TN)
  Hutchinson Community College (KS)
  Institute of Medical Education (CA)
  Keiser University – Lakeland (FL)
  Simmons College (MA)
  Southeast Community College (NE)
  Taylor College (FL)

We are also aware of several additional institutions that are planning to develop PT or PTA programs and are actively seeking program directors.
Self-study Workshops / Developing Program Workshops

As usual, we continue to offer three Self-study Workshops annually. The workshops are designed to assist programs in the self-study process; we recommend attendance at least one year prior to a scheduled on-site visit. The two-day workshops, which are provided free of charge, precede Combined Sessions Meeting in February, Annual Conference in June, and the Educational Leadership Conference in October. A registration form is posted on the website at http://www.apta.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=PTA_Programs2&TEMPLATE=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&CONTENTID=45810

Additionally, the Department of Accreditation provides one-day workshops for developing programs. There are four workshops scheduled annually, each approximately two months prior to each deadline for submission of the Application for Candidacy (AFC). Dates for the workshops are included in the calendar below. Effective with AFC submissions due on or after March 1, 2009, CAPTE will require that two representatives of the institution, including the program director, attend a workshop prior to submission of the AFC. A registration form is posted on the website at http://www.apta.org/Content/ContentGroups/Accreditation/CAPTE/Programs/DevelopingPrograms/DevProgWorkshop.REGISTRATION_FORM.doc

2009 Accreditation Calendar

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<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Self-study Workshop (Pre-CSM: Las Vegas)</td>
<td>February 8-9, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Progress Reports (following first CAPTE review after SSR) Due</td>
<td>February 16, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Progress Reports (following subsequent CAPTE reviews) Due</td>
<td>March 2, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Developing Program Workshop (Alexandria, VA)</td>
<td>March 24, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAPTE Meeting</td>
<td>April 24-29, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summaries of Action to be Mailed</td>
<td>May 20, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Self-study Workshop (Pre-AC: Baltimore)</td>
<td>June 7-8, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Developing Program Workshop (Alexandria, VA)</td>
<td>June 23, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Progress Reports (following first CAPTE review after SSR) Due</td>
<td>August 17, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Progress Reports (following subsequent CAPTE reviews) Due</td>
<td>September 2, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Invoices for 2010 Annual Accreditation Fees to be Mailed</td>
<td>September 15, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Developing Program Workshop (Alexandria, VA)</td>
<td>September 21, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Self-study Workshop (Pre-ELC: Philadelphia)</td>
<td>September 30-October 1, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAPTE Meeting</td>
<td>October 23-28, 2009</td>
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<td>Summaries of Action to be Mailed</td>
<td>November 18, 2009</td>
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<td>2009 ANNUAL ACCREDITATION REPORT DUE</td>
<td>December 1, 2009</td>
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<td>2010 ANNUAL ACCREDITATION FEE DUE</td>
<td>December 1, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Developing Program Workshop (Alexandria, VA)</td>
<td>December 14, 2009</td>
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Additionally, a list of upcoming on-site visits to PT programs is available at http://www.apta.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=CAPTE3&Template=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=21307

and a list of upcoming on-site visits to PTA programs is available at http://www.apta.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=PTA_Programs2&TEMPLATE=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&CONTENTID=46630

Department of Accreditation Contact Information

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By fax       1-703-706-3387
By email     accreditation@apta.org
By mail      Department of Accreditation
American Physical Therapy Association
1111 North Fairfax Street
Alexandria, VA  22314

Information about CAPTE and the accreditation process is available on the internet at www.capteonline.org or www.apta.org/capte.