



Report from the Board of Representatives
Spring 2009 Meeting
Michele R. Shields and Peter Yuichi Clark



The ACPE Board of Representatives convened immediately before the Spiritual Care Collaborative (SCC) Summit in Orlando, FL, from January 29 – 31, 2009. Following are some highlights, organized according to ACPE's Strategic Plan:

Contextual and Pastoral Education

- A reminder from the Accreditation Commission about satellites: It is the responsibility of the sponsoring "host" Center to ensure that the satellite is in full compliance with ACPE *Standards*. As one Accredited Center discovered, if a satellite is found to be out of compliance, any resulting notations are given to the sponsoring Center.
- The New Generations Project, which is a Board initiative designed to encourage and support new venues and approaches to offering CPE programs, approved a church lay training program developed by Swedish Medical Center in Seattle.

Supervisory Education and Certification

- The next edition of the *Standards* and *Manuals* is on track for release later this year. Final touches are being made to the Accreditation Commission's materials and to the Definitions of Terms. The Board will review the final drafts and vote on them by mid-July, and they should be available on-line by August 1st.
- The 2010 *Certification Manual* will state that SES's appearing for Candidacy *must* submit their theology papers as part of their materials, but that the "C" subcommittee will offer consultation only. The theology paper would no longer receive a "pass/fail" decision at the Candidacy appearance.
- The Standards Committee put forward its final version of proposed *Standard* 401.2: "The SES¹ is not authorized to supervise CPE students. The function of an SES is limited to levels of practice as progressively authorized by a primary supervisor from learning observation to student engagement. Time-limited exceptions to this standard may be obtained through consultation of the center's supervisor(s) with the ACPE Certification Commission Chair." After much vigorous debate, reflecting a split within ACPE membership about whether this standard is needed and (if so) how restrictive it needs to be, the Board voted on it: 9 in favor, 9 against, and 1 abstention. Since it was a split vote, the Board did *not* approve this standard, so it will *not* appear in the 2010 revision. In the 2010 *Standards*, there will be no standard proscribing how much or how little the SES is allowed to supervise CPE students.
- President Bill Scrivener will appoint a feasibility study group to explore the possibility of ACPE's partnering with seminaries in order to link the Supervisory education process with the process of earning a D.Min. degree. Peter has volunteered to serve with that group.

Development and Fund Raising

- It is now clear that the office space currently being used by ACPE is no longer adequate. During the Orlando meeting, the ACPE Board and the Foundation for CPE (FCPE) engaged in a visioning process that began the process of evaluating what the ACPE's space needs are, and how those

¹ SES is an acronym for Supervisory Education Student – the proposed replacement term for "Supervisor-in-Training" and "Supervisor in Supervisory Education."

might be addressed. The ACPE Board charged the Facilities Subcommittee and the Personnel Committee to continue this process and explore possibilities (including finding a new space, buying land and building a new space, and/or relocating the national office to another geographic location) and the implications of each option.

- The FCPE office is now located in San Antonio (where Deborah Whisnand, its executive director, lives), but donations will continue to be sent to Decatur, GA (where ACPE's national office and its accountants are located). The FCPE's donation address is P.O. Box 961, Decatur, GA 30031. A website for FCPE will go live soon.
- FCPE clarified that its anticipated operating budget for 2009 will be approximately \$350K, which it hopes to cover through its Annual Fund Campaign. The ACPE Board authorized FCPE to utilize the funds collected in the 2008 Annual Fund Campaign in order to defray its operating expenses and start-up costs.
- The ACPE Board voted to direct FCPE to prioritize its fundraising toward financing innovative programs, and Board members will provide FCPE with a list of fund development priorities no later than the fall 2009 leadership meeting in Atlanta.

Multicultural and International Learning

- A group of Norwegian CPE supervisors has approached ACPE about the possibility of a reciprocal agreement. The Board designated Edith Finsaadal to serve as a liaison.

Organizational Relationships in Pastoral Care

- The Board passed a resolution stating that ACPE's elected leadership should refer to the Spiritual Care Collaborative any formal or informal dialogue with a cognate group that is *not* a member of the SCC. This arose because of overtures from members of the College of Pastoral Supervision and Psychotherapy (CPSP), asking for conversations with ACPE about supporting CPSP's application for membership in the SCC.
- The Board passed a motion requiring that the Journal of Pastoral Care Publications (JPCP) fulfill its payment obligations to ACPE for business management services rendered in 2008 and that JPCP become current in its 2009 payments beginning in March.
- The Board approved the latest edition of the Pacific Region's Governance Manual, and it also created a task force assigned to create a Self-Study of Organizational Structure in order to analyze and strategize about the multiple challenges—fiscal, membership, logistical, etc.—that face ACPE as an organization. Michele will serve as a member of that task force.

Thank you for the privilege of representing your opinions to the ACPE Board of Representatives. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions, concerns, or comments.