

UPDATE

Assuring and Advancing Quality in Pharmacy Education

ACPE Elects New Executive Committee Members



2015–16 ACPE Executive Committee members, Michael Moné, Bruce Canaday, and Timothy Tucker

The Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) is pleased to announce the election of Bruce R. Canaday, Michael A. Moné and Timothy Tucker as members of the ACPE Executive Committee for the 2015-2016 term of office. **Bruce R. Canaday, Pharm.D., FASHP, FAPhA** Dean and Professor, School of Pharmacy, St. Louis College of Pharmacy will serve as President. Dr. Canaday brings a wealth of leadership experience to his new role, serving as president of both ASHP and APhA and working in academic/teaching environments in a number of capacities. “My previous leadership opportunities provided me with broad perspectives on practice issues, particularly as they interface with education and training.” Dr. Canaday feels that his experiences will be useful as ACPE works to transition to *Standards 2016*. “I feel the work ACPE does is critically important, and I am privileged to serve with such an outstanding group of practitioners, educators, academics, and staff, all focused on doing what is best for the future of pharmacy,” remarked Dean Canaday.

The Vice President of the ACPE Board is **Michael A. Moné, BPharm, JD**. Moné serves as Vice President Associate General Counsel—Regulatory for Cardinal Health in Dublin, Ohio. His experiences as the Executive Director of the Pharmacy Board and as General Counsel for various regulatory Boards have provided him with the tools and strategies to aid the ACPE Board in delivering efficient internal operations, effective external communications, and implementing the new standards. “I truly appreciate the opportunity to work alongside such extraordinary, dedicated professionals and enjoy meeting so many interesting teachers and students,” Moné reflected.

Timothy Tucker, PharmD is the Owner of City Drug Company in Huntingdon, Tennessee and will serve as Secretary/Treasurer of the ACPE Board. Dr. Tucker served as both President and Speaker of the House for the American Pharmacists Association and brings a strong voice of community pharmacists to the ACPE Board. According to Dr. Tucker, “The clear priority for the ACPE Board this year is to help implement Standards 2016 in a conscientious and mindful way, working with the schools and colleges of pharmacy to ensure a successful transition.” Dr. Tucker is honored to serve with the amazing group of men and women on the ACPE Board, who are fundamentally focused on best interests of pharmacy education. Specifically, his experiences on site visits have reinforced the strong innovation and creativity of our faculty and our student pharmacists throughout the country. ■



PETER H. VLASES
PharmD, DSc (Hon),
BCPS, FCCP,
ACPE Executive Director

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ACPE's CE Provider Accreditation Program Invitational Conference: Current and Future Opportunities and Challenges

In previous editions of *ACPE Update*, I have described the 2012 ACPE invitational stakeholder conference, *Advancing Quality in Pharmacy*

Education: Charting Accreditation's Future. The conference was focused on necessary revisions to the professional degree program accreditation standards. Feedback from our stakeholders provided vital direction to ACPE, resulted in seven publications in the *American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education*, and ultimately led to many changes embodied in the new *Accreditation Standards and Key Elements for the Professional Program in Pharmacy Leading to Doctor of Pharmacy Degree*, which become effective July 1, 2016 (a.k.a. *Standards 2016*).

Based on the successful guidance ACPE received on the degree program standards, the ACPE Board of Directors has identified a strategic need to conduct a similarly structured invitational stakeholder conference focused on ACPE's Continuing Education Provider Accreditation program. In 1975, ACPE was asked by the profession to develop national standards for the quality assurance of continuing education. Forty years later, after many changes in the profession and in ACPE's CE standards and evaluation activities, the ACPE Board wishes to have its stakeholders weigh in on opportunities and challenges for the CE provider accreditation program. The invitational conference, *40 Years Later – Current and Future Opportunities and Challenges*, will be held on October 29-30, 2015 in Chicago. The specific objectives of the conference are to:

1. Assess the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats associated with accredited continuing pharmacy education (CPE) for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians from the perspectives of the public, practitioners, CPE providers, regulators, and ACPE and other accreditors (e.g., Center for Pharmacy Practice Accreditation (CPPA), Joint Commission for the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO), etc.)
2. Identify best practices in accredited CPE and continuing professional development (CPD) in the health professions
3. Develop consensus about the optimal future state and roles of accredited CPE and CPD, including the role and influence of inter-professional education (IPE) and practice, along with implications for credentialing and privileging

This invitational conference will include a broad range of stakeholders

At no time in my 40+ years in pharmacy has there been a greater obligation, based on market forces and public health needs, for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians to either transform themselves to a different scope of practice and maintain and enhance their professional competence in the face of ever-changing therapeutics and practice requirements.

to participate and provide their input during the live meeting. A pre-meeting survey will also be sent to the invited guests and to a broader range of educators, practitioners, and regulators, in order to expand the input and perspective that will be integrated into the conference. These survey results will help guide and focus the discussions during the conference and supply ACPE with important recommendations.

At no time in my 40+ years in pharmacy has there been a greater obligation, based on market forces and public health needs, for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians to either transform themselves to a different scope of practice and maintain and enhance their professional competence in the face of ever-changing therapeutics and practice requirements. How can ACPE assure the quality of CE offered through accredited providers to better serve these workforce needs? What types of CE are most effective? What approaches and changes do learners, providers, regulators, employers, and other stakeholders need? How can ACPE enhance the adoption, implementation and integration of continuing professional development (CPD) to help practitioners to achieve better self-directed lifelong learning skills?

ACPE believes that the CE Provider Accreditation Program Invitational Conference: *40 Years Later – Current and Future Opportunities and Challenges* will provide valuable strategic direction. Future issues of *ACPE Update* will provide reports of progress regarding this important conference and the resulting recommendations. In the meantime, if you have thoughts on how ACPE's Continuing Education Provider Accreditation program can better serve our profession, please email me through ceinfo@acpe-accredit.org. ■

ACPE Advances CPE and Continuing Professional Development

During their January 21–25, 2015 meeting in San Diego, CA, the ACPE Board of Directors approved the *Definition of Continuing Education for the Profession of Pharmacy and the Guidance on Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for the Profession of Pharmacy*. These evolutionary changes in the Definition of CE and Guidance on CPD are designed to help assure that activities offered by accredited providers advance the knowledge and skills of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians following licensure and throughout their professional careers. These foundational documents will help ACPE support practitioners to meet the growing needs of increasingly complex patients and advances in technology and medication therapy.

Characteristics of quality in continuing pharmacy education and the required competencies for CE activity content are outlined in the [Definition of Continuing Education for the Profession of Pharmacy](#). These competencies for pharmacists are based on the updated American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy's (AACCP) Center for the Advancement of Pharmaceutical Education (CAPE) contemporary educational outcomes, and are intended to prepare pharmacists for their evolving role in meeting patient and public health needs. The Definition document will assist providers of continuing pharmacy education (CPE) in planning activities that will be applicable for the professional development of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians.

The [Guidance on Continuing Professional Development \(CPD\) for the Profession of Pharmacy](#) was developed by ACPE's CPD Steering Committee and used feedback from a broad survey of the profession that was conducted in July 2014. The Guidance delin-

ates the types of learning activities that could contribute to the professional development of both pharmacists and pharmacy technicians beyond CPE to attain new knowledge, skills, attitudes, and values. The CPD process focuses on assessment of needs and goals (REFLECT), generation of a personal development plan with outcomes-based objectives (PLAN), participation in formal and informal learning experiences (LEARN), and evaluation for achievement of

These foundational documents will help ACPE support practitioners to meet the growing needs of increasingly complex patients and advances in technology and medication therapy.

objectives and personal and professional impact (EVALUATE). The key to the CPD approach is linking learning to practice (APPLY).

The *CPD Guidance* presents the culmination of research and the concerted efforts of dedicated, experienced leaders focused on the evolving professional development needs of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians. Driven by the need for pharmacists to continually be up-to-date on the innovations in the profession, both resources reflect advances in continuing education and professional development that are aligned with ACPE's mission to assure and advance excellence in the education for the profession of pharmacy. Both documents can be downloaded from this [ACPE website link](#). ■



Murray Kopelow Retires from ACCME

After more than 30 years of distinguished service to the continuing medical education community, **Murray Kopelow, MD, MS(Comm), FRCPC** has announced his retirement. Dr. Kopelow has served as President and Chief Executive of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) over the last 20 years. A long-time collaborator and friend of pharmacy education accreditation, in 2009, ACPE combined efforts with ACCME and the American Nurses Credentialing Centers (ANCC) through Joint Accreditation to support healthcare team-based education. This joint initiative created opportunities for simultaneous accreditation for medical, nursing, and pharmacy continuing education through a single, unified application. Dr. Kopelow's influence in the growth and evolution of continuing education for healthcare professionals will continue to help drive innovative partnerships among the professions. Peter Vlasses, PharmD, DSc (Hon), BCPS, FCCP reflected, "ACPE truly appreciates Dr. Kopelow's collaborative efforts in providing interprofessional continuing education to healthcare providers. We wish him all the best in his retirement and will miss his experience, vision, and collaborative spirit." ■

Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education Exhibits Strong Growth

In 2003, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) released *Health Professions Education: A Bridge to Quality*, emphasizing that health professional education must prepare students to provide patient-centered care, work in interprofessional teams, practice evidence-based medicine, focus on quality improvement, and use information technology. In response to the recommendations in this report, the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), and ACPE collaboratively launched Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education in 2009. Joint Accreditation offers organizations the opportunity to provide medical, pharmacy, and nursing continuing education through a streamlined application process and uniform accreditation standards.

Since its inception, the number of Joint Accreditation CE Providers has grown from 3 to 17. As the leading model for improving interprofessional collaborative practice, this growth shows the need to foster continued collaboration among professions. “We are excited about the growth and engagement we have seen in Joint Accreditation. Medicine, nursing, and pharmacy understand the value of developing a true collaborative approach to patient care, and jointly educating the nation’s healthcare providers is a critical step in this process,” stated Dimitra Travlos, PharmD, Assistant Executive Director and Director, Continuing Pharmacy Education Provider Accreditation. ■

Current Joint Accreditation CE Providers:

- American Society of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition
- Audio-Digest Foundation
- Baystate Health
- Cine-Med, Inc.
- Contemporary Forums
- Creative Educational Concepts, Inc.
- Creighton University
- Duke University Health System
- Federal Bureau of Prisons
- Geisinger Health System
- Institute for Healthcare Improvement
- Joint Commission
- National Committee on Quality Assurance
- North American Center for Continuing Medical Education
- OptumHealth Education
- PRIME Education, Inc.
- VHA, Inc.



Preparing for Transition to Standards 2016

At its January 21–25, 2015, meeting, the ACPE Board of Directors approved the new Accreditation Standards and Key Elements for the Professional Program in Pharmacy Leading to the Doctor of Pharmacy Degree (“Standards 2016”) and the Guidance for the Accreditation Standards and Key Elements for the Professional Program in Pharmacy Leading to the Doctor of Pharmacy Degree (“Guidance 2016”). *Standards 2016* were released in early February and will become effective July 1, 2016. These revised standards will be utilized in accreditation reviews beginning in fall of 2016.

Standards 2016 were developed to assure the quality of pharmacy education programs that prepare graduates to be practice-ready, team-ready, and prepared to directly provide patient care in collaboration with other healthcare providers. Based on evidence and experience, *Standards 2016* articulate the expectations of ACPE, the academy, the practice community, and the U.S. Department of Education.

To help colleges and schools meet the standards and guidance, ACPE is developing training, tools, and resources to help with the transition through educational sessions, webinars, workshops, and individual consultations. Other efforts include updating the Assessment and Accreditation Management System (AAMS) to version 2.0, developing a rubric that aligns with *Standards 2016*, and revising required surveys. Comprehensive training of ACPE Board, staff, and site team visitors will also be conducted to equip accreditation review teams to understand and apply the new standards. Information about training and tools will become available later this spring and can be accessed on the [ACPE website](http://www.acpe.org).

Questions about Standards 2016, transition, and application may be directed to Dr. J. Gregory Boyer, Assistant Executive Director and Director, Professional Degree Program Accreditation. ■

PTAC Prepares for First Accreditation Meeting in May

The Pharmacy Technician Accreditation Commission (PTAC) will conduct their first accreditation meeting in May 2015. PTAC is a collaboration between the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) and ACPE. The goals of the commission are to:

- Create a highly qualified and trained workforce
- Improve patient safety
- Maintain greater consistency in technician workforce
- Update accreditation standards to maintain consistency with expanding roles and responsibilities of technicians
- Increase ability to shift technical tasks from pharmacists to technicians
- Decrease turnover in pharmacy technician positions.

Beginning July 1, 2015, currently accredited programs that comply with the revised standards will shift to being designated as ASHP/ACPE-accredited. The discussions during the May meeting will focus on the transition from ASHP accredited programs to ASHP/ACPE accredited programs. Those programs that are currently ASHP-accredited are in the process of documenting how their programs are in alignment with the new standards. Submissions will be reviewed by PTAC and approved by both organizations' boards. Programs successfully demonstrating they meet the new standards will maintain their accreditation status and the same timeframe for re-accreditation.

Independently, the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) has recently approved some program changes. By 2020, PTCB candidates seeking certification will be required to complete an ASHP/ACPE-accredited training program in order to be eligible. In addition, PTCB will require one of the 20 required CE hours to be in patient safety, in addition to one hour currently required by law. PTCB will also only accept pharmacy-technician-targeted CE. Anticipation of these changes by PTCB may influence additional programs to seek accreditation through PTAC. Collectively, these changes may help to standardize the educational foundation for pharmacy technicians to improve safety and equip technicians to assist pharmacists with technical tasks that may expand capacity for pharmacists to focus on clinical activities and provide care to patients. ■

Members of PTAC Commission:

Angela Cassano, PharmD, BCPS, FASHP

Pharmfusion Consulting, LLC
Midlothian, VA

Michael Diamond, MSc

World Resources Chicago
Evanston, IL

Jacqueline Hall, RPh, MBA

Walgreens
New Orleans, LA

Jan Keresztes, PharmD

South Suburban College
South Holland, IL

Barbara Lacher, BS, RPhTech, CPhT

North Dakota State College of Science
Wahpeton, ND

Douglas Scribner, CPhT

Central New Mexico Community College
Albuquerque, NM

John Smith, EdD

Zenith Education Group
Santa Ana, CA

Donna Wall, PharmD

Indiana University Hospital
Indianapolis, IN

LiAnne (Webster) Brown, CPhT

Richland College
Dallas, TX

Anthony Provenzano, PharmD

ACPE Board Liaison
New Albertson's, Inc.
Chicago, IL

Kelly Smith, PharmD

ASHP Board Liaison
University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy
Lexington, KY



INTERNATIONAL HIGHLIGHT

ACPE Conducts Deans Workshop in Bangalore, India

On March 17–18, Peter H. Vlasses, PharmD, DSc (Hon.), BCPS, FCCP and Mike Rouse, BPharm(Hons), MPS conducted a workshop for 20 deans of schools and colleges of pharmacy in India on the criteria and standards for certification of degree programs in countries outside of the United States. In all, 95 delegates from 30 institutions participated. Pharmacy practice and education in India have undergone a paradigm shift from focus on the drug product toward a focus on patients; this shift has brought challenges in ensuring quality and team growth. During this two-day workshop, Rouse and Vlasses provided an overview of ACPE and the International Services Program (ISP) and the work conducted in the United States and around the world. The workshop provided attendees with detailed information on ACPE certification, an overview of the internationally adopted quality criteria that guide the process, and an understanding of the role certification plays to advance and assure quality in pharmacy education.

The workshop also outlined the self-study process, required documentation, and how to apply for certification. Participants were guided through what to expect during site visits, as well as the activities required both pre- and post-visit. Following the workshop, ACPE staff met one-on-one with deans to discuss questions about their individual pharmacy degree programs and how ACPE might assist in the assurance of quality in their programs.

The reach of the International Services Program continues to extend as leaders in other countries reach out to ACPE to engage in consultation, collaboration, and certification. Earlier this year, ACPE staff and ISP leaders also visited with pharmacy education leaders in Northern Cyprus and Saudi Arabia. A picture from one of these visits, taken during an ACPE certification focused visit to King Saud University in Saudi Arabia, is shown (bottom right). Additional information about the ACPE International Services Program may be found [here on the ACPE website](#). ■



During the IACP workshop on March 17 in Bangalore, India, Dr. Parthasarathi Gurumurthy, Dean, College of Pharmacy and Professor of Pharmacy Practice from Jagadguru Sri Shivarathreeswara (JSS) University speaks to participants about JSS University's experience pursuing ACPE certification.



ACPE gathers with deans from pharmacy schools in India to discuss ACPE certification of programs outside of the U.S. Pictured seated, from left to right: Peter Vlasses (ACPE), Mike Rouse (ACPE), Professor K. Chinnaswamy (President IACP), Dr. V. Ravichandran (Secretary, IACP). Standing left to right: Professor Venkatramana, Professor B. Jayakar (Treasurer IACP), Professor Venketeswaralu, Dr. T. V. Narayana (Executive member, IACP).



At right: ACPE leaders with administrative leaders from King Saud University and the KSU College of Pharmacy. Pictured left to right: Dr. Saleh Alsaqer, Dean of Admission and Registration; Dr. Peter H. Vlasses, ACPE Executive Director; Dr. Hisham Aljadhey, Dean of the KSU College of Pharmacy; Dr. Timothy Tucker, ACPE Board, Secretary/Treasurer; and Dr. Yousif Asiri, Vice-Rector for Development and Quality, King Saud University.

Staff Highlight: Silvi Kastrati



Silvi Kastrati serves as the International Coordinator and Office Assistant for ACPE. She completed an internship with ACPE in 2012, joined the staff in March of 2013 as an office assistant, and transitioned to her current role last fall. As the International Coordinator within the International Service Program (ISP), she organizes activities of the International Commission and the ISP Advisory Group, working closely with the

program director. She coordinates communications, social media, and international activities. In her dual role, she also supports the continuing pharmacy education program and other departments. Silvi is fluent in Albanian and has strong comprehension of the Spanish and Italian languages. Silvi enjoys being part of the ACPE staff, crediting a supportive culture among the employees and engagement in tight-knit, small teams.

When asked about the future of pharmacy education, Kastrati noted that the international market is a growing segment. She believes that there is potential for expansion of certification and consultation into the Middle East, Latin America, eastern Asia, and Africa.

Before joining ACPE, Silvi was an active leader at the University of Illinois, Chicago, where she earned a degree in English in 2012. Over time, she plans to attend graduate school to pursue a master's degree as she continues to grow within ACPE. Kastrati lives in Oak Park, Illinois. ■

www.acpe-accredit.org

UPCOMING ACPE ACTIVITIES

AUGUST 6-7

2015 Self-Study Workshop (1st): CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

AUGUST 24-25

2015 Self-Study Workshop (2nd) CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Standards 2016 Webinars

(Announcement/Registration JULY 2015)

OCTOBER 1-2

CE Workshop CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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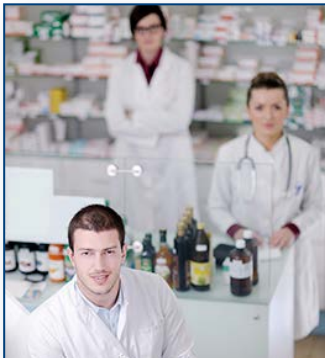
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General office hours:
Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Central Time



ACCREDITATION STATISTICS



134 Colleges and Schools of Pharmacy with Accreditation Status

- 122 Colleges and Schools with accreditation
- 8 Colleges and Schools with Candidate status
- 4 Colleges and Schools with Precandidate status

354 Continuing Education Providers with Accreditation Status

5 Schools awarded ACPE International Certification