

COMMISSION ON OSTEOPATHIC COLLEGE ACCREDITATION

Thomas A. Cavalieri, DO, FACOI, Chair

This report is for the period from June 1, 2013 through May 31, 2014. During this period the AOA Commission on Osteopathic Accreditation (COCA) met three times: September 7-8, 2013; December 7-8, 2013; and May 3-4, 2014.

COCA Meeting September 7-8, 2013

The COCA met on September 7-8, 2013 at the O'Hare Hilton Hotel (Chicago, IL) under the direction of the Chair. Accreditation action items included:

- ❑ One focused site visit report was reviewed and accepted from Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine (New York, N.Y.) and its additional location in Middletown, N.Y.
- ❑ Twenty-one (21) progress reports were reviewed and accepted from: Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine (Dothan, Ala.); Campbell University College of Osteopathic Medicine (Buies Creek, N.C.); Georgia Campus – Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (Suwanee, Ga.); Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (Erie, Pa.) – 3 reports; Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine-Bradenton (Bradenton, Fla.); Liberty University College of Osteopathic Medicine (Lynchburg, Va.); Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine (East Lansing, Mich.); Marian University College of Osteopathic Medicine (Indianapolis, Ind.); Midwestern University/Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine (Downers Grove, Ill.); New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine (Old Westbury, N.Y.); Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences - College of Osteopathic Medicine (Tulsa, Okla.); Ohio University – Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine (Athens, Ohio); Pacific Northwest University College of Osteopathic Medicine (Yakima, Wash.); Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine (Stratford, N.J.) – 2 reports; University of North Texas Health Science Center/Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (Fort Worth, Texas); William Carey University College of Osteopathic Medicine (Hattiesburg, Miss.); Western University/College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific (Pomona, Calif.); and West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine (Lewisburg, W.Va.)
- ❑ One request for substantive change request – mission – was reviewed and denied for A.T. Still University Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine (Kirksville, Mo.)
- ❑ Eight (8) follow-ups to annual reports were reviewed and accepted from: A.T. Still University, School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona (Mesa, Ariz.); Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine (Des Moines, Iowa); Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences College of Osteopathic Medicine (Kansas City, Mo.); New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine (Westbury, N.Y.); Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine (New York, N.Y.); Touro University College of Osteopathic Medicine – CA (Vallejo, Calif.) and its branch campus Touro University Nevada College of Osteopathic Medicine (Henderson, Nev.); Western University of Health Sciences/College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific (Pomona, Calif.); and West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine (Lewisburg, W.Va.)

- ❑ One follow-up to mid-cycle report was reviewed and approved for West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine (Lewisburg, W.Va.)

Discussion on policy items for the agenda resulted in the following actions:

- ❑ Representatives of the National Board of Osteopathic Examiners (NBOME) were present to give their annual report to the COCA in executive session
- ❑ COCA Standards Review Committee presented its commentary on potential revisions to Domains 2 – Governance, Administration and Finance; 4 – Faculty; and 7 – Research and Scholarly Activities
- ❑ A proposed template for student outcome analysis was prepared and presented by COCA staff
- ❑ Proposed revisions to the Excel® workbook used for graduate medical education (GME) and predoctoral clinical rotations analysis was prepared and presented by COCA staff
- ❑ Membership of the COM Appeal Panel was reviewed – one member was removed due to health issues, and one eligible candidate was appointed; the remaining members of the Appeal Panel were approved
- ❑ Two (2) candidates for Consultants on College Accreditation Listing were reviewed and denied
- ❑ Two (2) candidates for the Evaluators Registry were reviewed and approved
- ❑ The AOA President gave an update on negotiations with the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) negotiations and its impact on osteopathic medical education and an update on implementation of the AOA strategic plan for research
- ❑ Hot topics in higher education were presented by the COCA staff

COCA Meeting December 7-8, 2013

The COCA met on December 7-8, 2013 at the O'Hare Hilton Hotel (Chicago, IL) under the direction of the Chair. Accreditation action items included:

- ❑ Five reports from focused site visits were reviewed and accepted: Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine (Des Moines, Iowa); Ohio University – Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine (Athens, Ohio and its additional location in Warrensville Heights, Ohio); Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine (Stratford, N.J.); University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine (Biddeford, Maine); and University of Pikeville – Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine (Pikeville, Ky.)
- ❑ Accreditation status action: OU-HCOM received permission to begin operations at its additional location in Warrensville Heights, Ohio, including student recruitment, admissions, and instruction
- ❑ One request for substantive change – branch campus - was reviewed and denied for Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (Blacksburg, Va.)
- ❑ Six (6) progress reports were reviewed and accepted from: Georgia Campus – Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (Suwanee, Ga.); Liberty University College of Osteopathic Medicine (Lynchburg, Va.); Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences - College of Osteopathic Medicine (Tulsa, Okla.); Ohio University – Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine (for its additional location in Dublin, Ohio); Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine (for its additional location in Middletown, N.Y.); and Western University/College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific (Pomona, Calif.)

- ❑ Invited testimony on the Primary Care Scholars Pathway was given by representatives from the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (Erie, Pa.)
- ❑ Follow-up to COM Annual Report: 1 was reviewed and accepted with request for additional information from New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine (Old Westbury, N.Y.)

Policy discussion items for the agenda included:

- ❑ Nine (9) current members of the *Consultants on College Accreditation Listing* were re-appointed to three-year terms.
- ❑ One (1) new candidate was considered and appointed to *Consultants on College Accreditation Listing*.
- ❑ The college of osteopathic medicine (COM) site visit schedule for the 2015 calendar year was reviewed and approved.
- ❑ The COM class survey report for the entering class in the 2013 – 2014 academic year was reviewed and accepted. All COMs were found to be in compliance with the class size procedures.
- ❑ COCA Standards Review Committee's recommendations on revisions to standards Domains 2 – Governance, Administration and Finance; 4 – Faculty; 6 – Curriculum; and 7 – Research and Scholarly Activity were presented and approved for implementation, excepting revision to standard 2.4 which was deemed to be material and will be submitted for public comment
- ❑ The proposed data presentation for student outcome analysis was presented with further directions on revisions to staff. A revised model will be reviewed by the COCA-EC prior to the next COCA meeting.
- ❑ The current revision of the Excel® workbook for GME and predoctoral clinical rotations analysis was presented for informational purposes
- ❑ The AOA President addressed the COCA on current issues in medical education

COCA Meeting May 3-4, 2014

The COCA met on May 3-4, 2014 at the O'Hare Hilton Hotel (Chicago, IL) under the direction of the Chair. Accreditation action items for the agenda included:

- ❑ Three (3) comprehensive site visit reports were reviewed and accepted from: A.T. Still University Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine (Kirksville, Mo.); Midwestern University / Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine (Glendale, Ariz.); and, William Carey University College of Osteopathic Medicine (Hattiesburg, Miss.)
- ❑ Accreditation status action – A.T. Still University Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine was granted continuing Accreditation status
- ❑ Accreditation status action - Midwestern University / Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine was granted continuing Accreditation status
- ❑ Accreditation status action - William Carey University College of Osteopathic Medicine was granted initial Accreditation status

- ❑ Three (3) provisional site visits reports were reviewed from: Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine (Dothan, Ala.); Campbell University Jerry M. Wallace School of Osteopathic Medicine (Buies Creek, N.C.); and, Marian University College of Osteopathic Medicine (Indianapolis, Ind.)
- ❑ Accreditation status action - Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine was granted continuing Provisional Accreditation status;
- ❑ Accreditation status action - Campbell University Jerry M. Wallace School of Osteopathic Medicine was granted continuing Provisional Accreditation status;
- ❑ Accreditation status action - Marian University College of Osteopathic Medicine was granted continuing Provisional Accreditation status;
- ❑ One request for substantive change – branch campus (Auburn, Ala.) - was reviewed and approved for the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (Blacksburg, Va.);
- ❑ Accreditation action - initial approval of an application for substantive change – branch campus in Auburn, Ala. was given to the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (Blacksburg, Va.), with the privilege of recruiting students only. Interviewing, accepting of students, and offering instruction are not permitted at this time.
- ❑ Three (3) focused site visit reports were reviewed and accepted from: Georgia Campus-Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (Suwanee, Ga.); Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine (Yakima, Wash.); Western University of Health Sciences / College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific (Pomona, Calif.) and its additional location COMP-NW (Lebanon, Ore.)
- ❑ Six (6) progress reports were reviewed and accepted from: Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine (Des Moines, Iowa); Liberty University College of Osteopathic Medicine (Lynchburg, Va.); Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine-Cleveland (additional location in Warrensville Heights, Ohio); Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine–Dublin (additional location in Dublin, Ohio); Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine (additional location in Middletown, N.Y.); University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine (Biddeford, Maine)
- ❑ Follow-up to COM Annual Report: 1 was reviewed and accepted from the New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine (Westbury, N.Y.)
- ❑ The COCA invited representatives of the A.T. Still University – School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona (ATSU-SOMA) to the September meeting to report on the outcomes of their innovative curriculum.

Discussion on policy items for the agenda resulted in the following actions:

- ❑ Approved revised Standard 2.4 and new Standard 6.4 and glossary definition, to become effective on 7/1/2014. New Standard 6.9.1 was authorized for public commentary, and new Standard 6.10 deferred for discussion until the September 2014 meeting of the COCA.
- ❑ Six (6) new candidates were considered and approved to the Evaluators Registry.
- ❑ One (1) current member of the Evaluators Registry was approved to serve in the capacity of Team Chair.

- ❑ AOA President addressed the COCA on ways to enhance acculturation and build *esprit de corps* for DO students.
- ❑ The COCA reviewed discussion topics for its annual September meeting with representatives of the NBOME.
- ❑ The COCA charged its Standard Review Committee to review standard domain 8 – GME Outcomes, particularly 8.3, and GME criteria for new COMs, substantive changes for branch, additional locations and CSI in light of proposed changes in accreditation of GME programs; and 2.1.2, 4.2.1 and 4.7.1 for clarification in language and intent.

COCA - Executive Committee (COCA – EC)

May 2014 -

During the December 7-8, 2013, COCA meeting, COCA Commissioners requested revisions to the version of the proposed student outcome assessment prepared by COCA staff. At that time it was decided the Executive Committee would meet to provide feedback regarding the Student Outcomes Assessment.

The COCA-EC met via teleconference on January 22, 2014 to review and discuss the changes made to the Student Outcomes Assessment, including a different color format and descriptive statistics for each assessment.

The COCA-EC met in executive session by teleconference on March 17, 2014 and took the following action: authorized COCA staff to cease having transcription services at COCA meetings effective with May 3-4, 2014 meeting of the COCA.

Annual Report Review Committee

September 2013 Report – there was no report from the Annual Report Review Committee at this meeting.

December 2013 Report – there was no report from the Annual Report Review Committee at this meeting.

May 2014 Report - there was no report from the Annual Report Review Committee at this meeting.

COM Accreditation Appeal Panel

There were no appeals heard during this year.

Committee on College Accreditation Training (CCAT)

September 2013 – there was no report from the Committee on College Accreditation Training at this meeting.

December 2013 Report –

The CCAT held a teleconference meeting on October 14, 2013 to begin the initial planning of the CCAT COMs Accreditation Training Workshop, scheduled for April 2, 2014, at Capital Hilton Hotel in Washington, DC. The workshop would be held in conjunction with the AACOM Annual Meeting.

The CCAT Chair and COCA staff held a teleconference meeting on November 18, 2013 to discuss the proposed workshop theme and agenda. The theme was approved; staff were directed to prepare and distribute a “save the date” memo to stakeholders.

May 2014 Report –

The CCAT held its COMs Accreditation Training Workshop on April 2, 2014, at the Capital Hilton Hotel – Washington, D.C. Titled “Compliance: Meeting and Exceeding the Standards,” the program focused on examples of how various COMs go about not only meeting but exceeding standards in areas such as assessment, OPP/OMM curriculum, research, faculty development, student services, and GME. The program also included a session that reviewed substantive changes and the “Clinical Rotations and GME Toolkit” for a branch campus, additional location, or class size increase. The workshop had 112 attendees, including 14 speakers. Participants attended three plenary sessions:

- ❑ Planning for Your Site Visit: Compliance with Assessment Standards
- ❑ Planning for Your Site Visit: Compliance with OPP/OMM Standards
- ❑ Review of New Standards: A Report on Implementation of Standard Eight to Date

and two breakout sessions:

- ❑ Understanding and Planning for a Substantive Change
- ❑ Exceeding the Standards: Best Practices for Standard Domains Four, Five and Seven

COCA Standards Review Committee (SRC)

September 2013 Report –

At the May 4-5, 2013 meeting of the COCA, the proposed work plan for reviewing and revising COCA standards was approved and the SRC was directed to implement the work plan.

On July 9, 2013, the SRC met via teleconference to discuss proposed changes to Standard Domain 7 – Research and Scholarly Activities.

On July 31, 2013, the SRC met via teleconference and reviewed the Standard Domain 7 modifications made since the previous SRC teleconference. The SRC agreed to present the standard domain 7 proposed changes to the COCA at the September 7-8, 2013 meeting for review.

The SRC also reviewed the proposed changes to Standard Domain 2 – Governance, Administration and Finance and agreed to present the proposed changes to Standard Domain 2 to the COCA at the September 7-8, 2013 meeting.

December 2013 Report –

At the September 7-8, 2013 meeting, the COCA authorized the posting for public commentary of the revisions proposed by the SRC to the following: Standard Domain 7 - Research and Scholarly Activity; Standard Domain 6 – Curriculum; Standard Domain 2 - Governance, Administration and Finance; Standard Domain 4 – Faculty; and Chapter VIII: Glossary. Stakeholders received notification in a memo dated September 16, 2013 of the posting of these proposed changes on the COCA website. All comments from stakeholders were due by October 31, 2013.

The SRC met via teleconference on November 11, 2013 to review the commentary from stakeholders regarding the proposed changes to the COCA standards. After a review of the comments and discussion, the SRC agreed to send the following proposed standards to the COCA for discussion: Standards 7.1 (revised), 7.2 (new), 2.1.3 (revised), 2.5.2 (revised), 2.5.4 (new), 2.6.1 (new), 2.7.1 (new), 4.2.3 (revised), 4.2.4 (new), and the Glossary. The SRC agreed that further discussion of Standard 2.4 by the COCA was needed. This discussion would occur during the COCA Executive Session on Saturday, December 7.

The SRC also briefly discussed the Interprofessional Collaboration standard proposed by the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM). It was decided that COCA staff would provide the SRC with interprofessional standards from other healthcare related accrediting agencies as well as the proposed standard from AACOM and that a teleconference would be planned prior to the December 2013 COCA meeting in order to review AACOM's proposal and make recommendations to the COCA.

The SRC met via teleconference on December 3, 2013 to review AACOM's proposed new standard on Interprofessional Collaboration as well as materials from other healthcare accreditors on this topic. The Chair proposed revisions to reflect language used by other healthcare accreditors. After discussion and some editing, the SRC agreed to propose the new standard to the COCA for discussion at the December 2013 meeting.

May 2014 Report –

On March 22, 2014, a Standards Forum was convened at the O'Hare Hilton and chaired by the SRC Chair. Approximately 30 stakeholders were in attendance. Responses from posted public commentary were presented. The agenda, including agenda items added by the audience, covered the following topics:

- ❑ Proposed changes to Standard 2.4
- ❑ Proposed new standard 6.4 and Glossary Definition of Interprofessional Collaborative Practice
- ❑ New Standards 6.9.1 and 6.10 as proposed by AACOM
- ❑ Concerns from representatives of the Council of Student Government Presidents (COSGP) in the following areas:
 - Non-discrimination: gender identity and sexual orientation
 - Expanding class sizes and opening new COMs
 - Student Representation on COCA
- ❑ Discussion of Standard Domain 4 - Faculty and Standard Domain 6 - Curriculum comments from the Standards Survey.

The SRC met via teleconference on April 22, 2014 to review the outcomes from the Standards Forum and to make recommendations to the COCA regarding the proposed changes to the standards. After a review of the comments and discussion, the SRC agreed to send the following proposed standards to the COCA for discussion and approval: Standard 2.4 (revised) and Standard 6.4 (new) with Glossary Definition. The SRC agreed to recommend that proposed Standard 6.9.1 be posted for public commentary and that further consideration of Standard 6.10 be deferred until the September 2014 meeting of the COCA.