

COMMISSION ON OSTEOPATHIC COLLEGE ACCREDITATION

James M. Lally, DO, MMM, Chair

This report is for the period from June 1, 2004 through May 31, 2005. During this period the AOA Commission on Osteopathic Accreditation (AOA COCA) met four times: June 5-6, 2004; August 28-29, 2004; December 4-5, 2004; and April 30-May 1, 2005. A workshop for evaluators was conducted on October 16-17, 2004.

AOA COCA meeting in June 2004

The AOA COCA met on June 5-6, 2004 at the O'Hare Hilton (Chicago, IL). The meeting began with an orientation session for all members. Accreditation action items for the agenda included:

- ❑ Three reports from on-site evaluations for full survey review of accreditation were accepted, with approval of continuing accreditation: University of New England-College of Osteopathic Medicine – Biddeford, ME; Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine – Fort Lauderdale, FL; University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth-Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine – Fort Worth, TX.
- ❑ One report from an on-site evaluation of full survey review of provisional accreditation was accepted with approval of continuing provisional accreditation: Edward Via Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine – Blacksburg, VA.
- ❑ Two reports from on-site evaluations for focused visitations were accepted: New York College of Osteopathic Medicine of New York Institute of Technology – Old Westbury, NY; A.T. Still University – Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine – Kirksville, MO; Pikeville College School of Osteopathic Medicine – Pikeville, KY.
- ❑ One initial request for substantive change / branch campus was given approval to recruit students, but not to accept students or begin operations: Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, to be located in Atlanta, GA area.
- ❑ An on-site evaluation report on substantive change / branch campus was reviewed and approved: Touro University College of Osteopathic Medicine-Nevada – Henderson, NV.
- ❑ A request for substantive change / class size increase was reviewed: University of Health Sciences-College of Osteopathic Medicine – Kansas City, MO.
- ❑ Six progress reports were reviewed and accepted: Touro University College of Osteopathic Medicine-Nevada – Henderson, NV; Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine-Bradenton -- Bradenton, FL; Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine – Erie, PA; Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine – East Lansing, MI; Touro University College of Osteopathic Medicine – Vallejo, CA; University of Health Sciences- College of Osteopathic Medicine – Kansas City, MO.
- ❑ One update report was accepted: Northwest Track of the Western University of Health Sciences-College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific – Pomona, CA

Policy discussion items for the agenda included:

- ❑ The *COM Accreditation Standards and Procedures* were editorially revised to reflect the change in AOA COCA structure and disbanding of the former Council on Predoctoral Education and approved.
- ❑ A new *AOA COCA Handbook* was prepared to reflect the change in structure of the AOA COCA and disbanding of the former Council on Predoctoral Education.
- ❑ The COM Accreditation Appeal Panel appointments were approved though the period ending with the August 2005 meeting.
- ❑ HOD Resolution 268 (A/03) “Rotation with Osteopathic Physicians” was reviewed. An ad hoc Subcommittee on Osteopathic Educational Elements was appointed to review this resolution and report back to the AOA COCA.

- ❑ The document entitled, “Memorandum of Understanding” between the AOA and the AOA COCA regarding conduct of college accreditation activities and maintaining compliance with the requirements of the U.S. Secretary of Education, was discussed and ratified.

AOA COCA meeting in August 2004

The AOA COCA met on August 28-29, 2004 at the O’Hare Hilton (Chicago, IL). This was the first meeting in the new calendar cycle for the commission. Accreditation action items for the agenda included:

- ❑ There were no on-site evaluation reports to review at this meeting.
- ❑ Two reconsideration requests were heard: Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences College of Osteopathic Medicine–Kansas City, MO and Pikeville College School of Osteopathic Medicine – Pikeville, KY.
- ❑ One request for substantive change / class size increase was deferred to the December 2004 meeting: Nova Southeastern University-College of Osteopathic Medicine.
- ❑ Eight progress reports were reviewed and accepted: Pikeville College School of Osteopathic Medicine – Pikeville, KY; Nova Southeastern University–College of Osteopathic Medicine – Fort Lauderdale, FL; Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine–Erie, PA; Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine-Bradenton-Bradenton, FL; Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences - College of Osteopathic Medicine–Kansas City, MO; University of New England – College of Osteopathic Medicine–Biddeford, ME; Touro University College of Osteopathic Medicine – Vallejo, CA; University of North Texas Health Sciences Center at Fort Worth – Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine–Fort Worth, TX.
- ❑ Annual Reports were reviewed and accepted from all 20 colleges of osteopathic medicine. Because of late submission, a focused on-site visitation was directed to one of the colleges.

Policy discussion items for the agenda included:

- ❑ The *COM Accreditation Standards and Procedures* were revised at one procedure, with approval to submit the document for public comment.
- ❑ Revisions to the *AOA COCA Handbook* were discussed with staff directed to present a final copy for review at the December 2004 meeting.
- ❑ The COM Accreditation Appeal Panel appointments for the 2004-2005 year were approved.
- ❑ The Documentation Pad for on-site surveys was reviewed and approved.
- ❑ The *Evaluators Manual* used for on-surveys was reviewed as revised and approved.
- ❑ The invitees list for the October 16-17, 2005 CCAT Workshop was reviewed and approved.
- ❑ Four individuals were approved for admission to the Evaluators’ Registry
- ❑ The Annual Supplemental Report Form was reviewed and approved.
- ❑ Resolution 274 (A/04) “Match Participation and Rotations with Osteopathic Physicians, Proposed Requirements for Osteopathic” was reviewed. A Subcommittee on Osteopathic Educational Elements (SOEE) was appointed to study this resolution.

AOA COCA meeting in December 2004

The COCA held its fall meeting on December 4-5, 2004 at the Chicago Doubletree Guest Suites Hotel in Chicago, IL. The meeting began with an orientation session for all members. Accreditation action items for the agenda included:

- ❑ There were no on-site evaluation reports from full surveys or focused visitations to review.
- ❑ Decision on an application for substantive change/class size increase was deferred pending an on-site evaluation of the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine in Lewisburg, VA.
- ❑ Two requests for substantive changes/class size increases were reviewed and approved: Nova Southeastern University–College of Osteopathic Medicine in Fort Lauderdale, FL; Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences–College of Osteopathic Medicine in Kansas City, MO
- ❑ One Substantive change/unplanned, one-time, class size increase was approved for the Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine in Athens, OH.
- ❑ An accelerated program for osteopathic medical students holding an earned Doctor of Podiatric Medicine (D.P.M.) was approved with a limit of three positions per year for the Nova Southeastern University–College of Osteopathic Medicine in Fort Lauderdale, FL.
- ❑ An on-site evaluation report was accepted and ability to admit and offer instruction was approved for the Georgia branch campus of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.
- ❑ One reconsideration request was heard for the Edward Via Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine in Blacksburg, VA.
- ❑ Three progress reports were reviewed and accepted: Nova Southeastern University–College of Osteopathic Medicine in Fort Lauderdale; Midwestern University–Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine; University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth–Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine in Fort Worth, TX.
- ❑ Annual COM Class Size Surveys were reviewed. Further information was requested from the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine-Bradenton; Bradenton, FL.

Policy discussion and action items for the agenda included:

- ❑ A proposed procedural revision to the *COM Accreditation Standards and Procedures* was reviewed and approved.
- ❑ A new *AOA COCA Handbook* was reviewed and approved. Staff were directed to continue drafting the conflict of interest statement with the assistance of the AOA General Counsel and members of the AOA COCA who are also practicing attorneys.
- ❑ Revisions to the forms to evaluate the visiting team were reviewed and approved.
- ❑ The COM site visit schedule for calendar year 2006 was reviewed and approved.
- ❑ Documentation guidelines for applications for substantive change, preparation of progress reports, and preparation of self-studies were reviewed and approved.
- ❑ The COCA discussed the current *per diem* for commissioners. After discussion, the matter was referred to the AOA Bureau of Finance to review.

AOA COCA meeting in April/May 2005

The AOA COCA held its spring meeting on April 30–May 1, 2005 at the O’Hare Hilton Hotel. Accreditation action items from the agenda included:

- ❑ One report from on-site evaluations for full survey review of accreditation was accepted, with approval of continuing accreditation for the University of Medicine and Biosciences–College of Osteopathic Medicine in Kansas City, MO.

- ❑ One report from an on-site evaluation of full survey review of provisional accreditation was accepted with approval of continuing provisional accreditation: Edward Via Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine – Blacksburg, VA.
- ❑ Two reports from on-site evaluations to branch campuses were accepted with approval to add the branch campus into the accreditation of the parent college: Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, branch campus in Bradenton, FL; Touro University College of Osteopathic Medicine, branch campus in Henderson, NV.
- ❑ One report from an on-site evaluation was accepted and a substantive change/class size increase was approved for the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine in Lewisburg, WV.
- ❑ One substantive change/class size increase was approved for the Michigan State University- College of Osteopathic Medicine in East Lansing, MI.
- ❑ One substantive change / unplanned class size increase was approved for the Bradenton, FL campus of the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine was approved.
- ❑ Four reports from focused on-site evaluations were accepted: Western University of Health Sciences–College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific in Pomona, CA; Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine in Athens, OH; Edward Via Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine in Blacksburg, VA; and Pikeville College School of Osteopathic Medicine in Pikeville, KY.
- ❑ One progress report was accepted from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine branch campus in Suwanee, GA.

Policy discussion items for the agenda included:

- ❑ AOA President George Thomas, D.O., gave written testimony with recommendations for revision of the *COM Accreditation Standards and Procedures*. The recommendations will be entered into the continuing standards review process.
- ❑ A revised conflict of interest policy for the *AOA COCA Handbook* was discussed and approved.
- ❑ A request from the AOA BOCER to revise the Annual Osteopathic Medical School Questionnaire was discussed and referred to the Annual Report Review committee for its consideration.
- ❑ A request from the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) to study Safety Recommendation H-04-047 was discussed. The AOA COCA voted to publish an advisory notice in the *PredocNews* and other media as may be appropriate.
- ❑ The report of the *ad hoc* Subcommittee on Osteopathic Educational Elements, as reviewed by the AOA COCA Executive Committee, in response to Res. 274 (A/04) “Match Participation and rotations with Osteopathic Physicians, Proposed Requirements for Osteopathic” was discussed and approved for transmission to the AOA House of Delegates.

COCA - Executive Committee (COCA – EC)

The COCA – EC met once via teleconference on March 14, 2005. The COCA – EC discussed the following agenda items:

- ❑ Revised Self-Study Analysis Tool
- ❑ Revised Site Visit Reporting Format
- ❑ (Preliminary review of MSUCOM substantive change request and staff’s response (discussed in executive session)
- ❑ Subcommittee on Osteopathic Educational Elements preliminary report and resolutions
- ❑ Update on Committee on College Accreditation Training June 2005 Accreditation Workshop

Subcommittee on Osteopathic Educational Elements (SOEE)

The SOEE was formed by the AOA COCA to address House of Delegates resolution 274 (A/04) "Match Participation and rotations with Osteopathic Physicians, Proposed Requirements for Osteopathic". This subcommittee met twice since its formation. The committee prepared a report for the AOA COCA-EC. Their report, as edited and approved by the AOA COCA-EC and AOA COCA, is attached to this report (see attachment).

Committee on College Accreditation Training (CCAT)

The CCAT met via teleconference monthly between August through June to prepare for the biannual Evaluators Training workshop (October 2004) and the Accreditation Training workshop scheduled for June 2005. The Evaluators Training workshop was conducted October 16-17, 2004 in Tempe, AZ. This workshop was by invitation only. Forty-four evaluators, AOA COCA members, and BOT members were in attendance for this workshop.

Currently, the CCAT is working to finalize the Accreditation Training workshop program scheduled for June 21, 2005 in Bethesda, MD. This workshop is for COM training; each COM is expected to send at least one person to the workshop. The topic for this workshop is: *The Self-Study Process: Evaluating Assessments and Outcomes*. George Thomas, DO, AOA President, is luncheon speaker for this workshop.

Annual Report Review Committee

The Annual Report Review Committee met via teleconference in August 20, 2004 to review the AOA COCA Annual Supplemental Report. That report was reviewed and revised, then distributed to the COMs for completion by December 15, 2004. The next tentatively scheduled teleconference is for June 2005.

COM Accreditation Appeal Panel

There were no appeals heard during this year.