

Updates from ACOTE and AOTA Academic Affairs

Notes from the department.....

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ACOTE conducted the spring meeting in Indianapolis on April 27-28, 2012. At that meeting, there were 414 separate program actions taken by the Council. These actions included the granting of initial accreditation to 6 new OTA programs and 1 new OT program. In addition, one new OTA satellite location of an existing program was granted accreditation.

The number of applications for new programs at all levels continues to grow. The biggest barrier to many of these programs proceeding to the developing (candidacy) status has been the lack of qualified faculty. The current number of programs and locations in the accreditation system can be found on page 5.

ACOTE has successfully completed the first two steps in the petition for re-recognition by the Secretary of Education. The final step will be the oral presentations to the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and

Integrity (NACIQI) in Alexandria (VA) on June 25th (see page 2).

In the fall of 2012 and spring of 2013, ACOTE will be hosting a series of workshops in 11 regional locations. The workshops will focus on reviewing the new 2011 Accreditation Standards and introducing the participants to the online e-accreditation system that will be phased in over the next 18 months (see page 3).

The summer ACOTE meeting in August will mark a milestone when Dr. Letha Mosley completes her term as ACOTE Chairperson. Dr. Mosley was first appointed to ACOTE in 1997 and served two consecutive terms. Upon completion of the terms on ACOTE, she served as an ACOTE Emeriti and as a member of the ACOTE Appeals Board.

Dr. Mosley was serving on the Commission on Education when she was elected as the ACOTE Chairperson-Elect in 2008. Following a one-

year term as Chairperson-Elect, Dr. Mosley served as the ACOTE Chairperson for 3 years. During her tenure as Chairperson, Dr. Mosley has overseen a Standards review process; a petition for recognition to the USDE; development of the e-accreditation system; and unprecedented growth in program applications and reviews.

During her terms in various roles on ACOTE, Dr. Mosley completed countless hours of volunteer service to the profession, including completing 35 self-study and on-site visit reviews; attending 28 Council meetings; and reviewing over 1,000 program reports.

Dr. Mosley has served as a leader and advocate for our educational programs and will be missed by her colleagues and staff on the Council. We wish her the best of luck in her next volunteer role!

**Neil Harvison, PhD,
OTR/L, FAOTA
Director, Accreditation and
Academic Affairs**

Faculty Requirements: Effective July 1, 2012

“To allow faculty sufficient time to come into compliance with these requirements, an implementation date of July 1, 2012 was noted when the Standards were published in 2006.”

Two of the 2006 ACOTE Standards included requirements for higher degree levels for faculty than had been required under the 1998 Standards. To allow faculty sufficient time to come into compliance with these requirements, an implementation date of July 1, 2012 was noted when the Standards were published in 2006.

Standard A.2.3: At the August meeting, the Council will review the credentials of all program directors to ensure that

they hold the minimal degrees required. All future reviews of program director credentials and reports of self-study/interim reports will ensure that any degree granted after January 1, 2012, was granted by an institution accredited by a USDE-recognized accreditor.

Doctoral and Master’s Standard A.2.9 / OTA Standard A.2.11:

Compliance with these Standards will be reviewed at the time the program submits the 2013 annual report. All full-time faculty

in doctoral programs must hold a doctoral degree. All full-time faculty in master’s programs must hold a minimum of a master’s degree, and the majority must hold a doctoral degree. All full-time faculty in OTA programs must have a minimum of a bachelor’s degree.

Any degree granted after January 1, 2012, must be granted by an institution accredited by a USDE-recognized accreditor.

USDE recognition review

“the Secretary who will make the final determination of ACOTE’s recognition status.”

As required by federal regulation, on January 9, 2012, ACOTE filed its petition with the United States Department of Education (USDE) for re-recognition. It has been 6 years since USDE’s last review of ACOTE.

Over the last 6 months, USDE staff members have been reviewing ACOTE’s petition and practices in order to ensure compliance with federal regulations. USDE staff will submit a report to the Secretary of Education and to the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and

Integrity (NACIQI) in late June.

NACIQI’s role is to advise the USDE Secretary on recognition of accreditation agencies. NACIQI consists of 6 members appointed by the USDE, 6 members appointed by the United States House of Representatives, and 6 members appointed by the United States Senate.

On June 25, 2012, Letha Mosley, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA (ACOTE Chairperson); Ellen McLaughlin, EdD, OTR/L (ACOTE Chairperson-

Elect); and Neil Harvison, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA (AOTA) will appear before the NACIQI panel to respond to the USDE staff report and panel members’ questions. Both the USDE staff report and the NACIQI recommendation will be forwarded to the Secretary who will make the final determination of ACOTE’s recognition status.

For more information on the review, contact Neil Harvison at nharvison@aota.org.

Standards Workshops

In the fall of 2012 and spring 2013, ACOTE will host 11 regional workshops. The agenda for the workshops will be:

- (1) Review the changes in the 2011 Standards and the timeline for compliance.
- (2) Provide examples of how programs can bring themselves into the compliance with the new Standards.
- (3) Provide live demonstrations of ACOTE Online, the new Web-based accreditation system

that will become mandatory in July 2013.

Fall workshops include:
Winston-Salem, NC on Friday, September 14;
Orlando, FL on Friday, September 21;
New York, NY on Wednesday, September 26;
Toledo, OH on Friday, October 12;
Boston, MA on Saturday, October 26;
Los Angeles, CA on Friday, December 14.

Registration details will be sent to programs in July.

Coming in the spring:

Philadelphia, PA
Hillsboro, OR
Houston, TX
Milwaukee, WI

Contact: accred@aota.org

"fall of 2012 and spring 2013 ACOTE will be hosting 11 regional workshops"

Education Summit 2013 - Save the date!

AOTA will be hosting an **Education Summit** on October 4-5, 2013, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Atlanta, GA. The summit is being developed in response to requests from faculty for a venue to address research and issues focused on OT and OTA education.

The summit will include peer-reviewed papers,

panels, and poster sessions. A planning committee will be convening this summer to develop the summit theme and criteria for the call for papers.

The call for papers will be launched in November of this year and will close on January 15. Submissions will only be accepted electronically. Presenters will be notified in April 2013 if their submission was

successful.

The fall 2013 Program Directors' Council meetings will be shortened to a one-day meeting preceding the summit on October 3, 2012.

More information will be shared in October at the joint PD/AFWC meeting in Orlando.

"Education Summit on October 4-5, 2013, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Atlanta, GA"

Self-Study Workshop

The fall 2012 self-study workshop will be held on October 3-4 at the Hilton Bonnet Creek Hotel in Orlando Florida on the two days preceding the joint meeting of the Program Directors' Education Councils and

the Academic Fieldwork Coordinators. Registration for the workshop opens in July and typically fills quickly. Attendance at the workshop is capped at 30 participants.

The next workshop will be

held in February 2013 in the Washington DC area.

For information about the workshops, contact AOTA's Education Coordinator Valeta Njoroge at vnjoroge@aota.org.

"Registration for the workshop opens in July and typically fills quickly"

New ACOTE Members

“new members will begin a 3-year term on ACOTE on August 5, 2012.”

The following new members will be beginning a 3-year term on ACOTE on August 5, 2012:

Jo Ann Cobble, EdD, RN
Public Member
Tuttle, OK

Tia Hughes, DrOT, MBA, OTR/L
Department Chair
Occupational Therapy Program
Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences
Orlando, FL

Heather M. Stagliano, MHS, OTR/L
Department of Veteran Affairs
Palo Alto, CA

Donald E. Walkovich, DHSc, OTR/L
Associate Dean, School of Health Sciences & Chair
Department of Occupational Therapy
Saint Francis University
Loretto, PA

In addition, the Council was joined by a new alternate public member at the April meeting in Indianapolis:

Clyde B. Jensen, PhD
Dean of Science,
Technology, Engineering and Math
Mt Hood Community College
Gresham, OR

The following members will be completing their term on ACOTE at the

August meeting:

Dorothy Bethea, EdD, OTR/L
Chairperson & Professor
Department of Occupational Therapy
Winston-Salem State University
Winston-Salem, NC

Dahlia Castillo, MS, OTR
Fieldwork Coordinator
University of Texas-El Paso
El Paso, TX

Carmen Jackson, MA
Public Member
Oklahoma City, OK.

A current list of ACOTE members is available at: www.acoteonline.org

E-Accreditation

“Spring 2014: All accreditation reports including Interim Reports will be online.”

Implementation of the Web-based accreditation system is continuing on schedule:

Fall 2012: All programs scheduled to submit Applications for Developing Program Status (Candidacy Applications) on September 14, 2012 will submit materials online.

Spring 2013: Pilot programs electing to undergo re-accreditation

visits under the 2011 Standards will submit self-studies online.

Annual data surveys will be completed online and programs will gain access to the database for trend data.

Fall 2013: All applications and re-accreditation reviews will be completed online.

In addition, the following will only be accepted

online:

- (1) Plans of correction & progress reports;
- (2) New program director credentials;
- (3) Reports of minor and major program changes.

Spring 2014: All accreditation reports including Interim Reports will be online.

Questions:
sgraves@aota.org

Number of Programs

	<u>Accredited</u>	<u>Candidacy</u>	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Total</u>
OT				
Masters Programs	145	3	7	155
Doctoral Programs	4	4	3	11
Masters Additional Locations	10	2	0	12
Doctoral Additional Locations	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
Total OT Locations	160	9	10	179
OTA				
Programs	157	26	23	206
Additional Locations	<u>26</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>29</u>
Total OTA Locations	183	29	23	235
Totals				
Programs	306	33	33	372
Additional Locations	<u>37</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>42</u>
Total Locations	343	38	33	414

¹ Candidacy Programs have proceeded to the second step and can admit students, but will not gain accreditation until successful completion of a report of self-study and on-site visit.

² Applicant Programs have submitted a letter of intent to start a new program or additional location.

Fall 2012 Combined Program Directors' and AFWC Meeting

When: October 5-6 Combined PD & Academic Fieldwork Coordinators
October 4 Orientation for New Program Directors (3-6 pm)

Where: **Hilton Bonnet Creek Hotel – Orlando, FL**

Registration: **Online registration begins in July 2012**

Fee: Single Registration \$210
(10% discount for 2 or more faculty from the same institution)

Accommodations: Special Meeting Room Rate: Single/double room - \$164 plus 12.5% tax; additional persons \$20 additional plus tax. Sleeping room rate applies 3 days pre and post based on availability.

American Occupational Therapy Association

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(301) 652-1417

E-MAIL:
accred@aota.org

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.acoteonline.org

Important dates...

- ACOTE Summer Meeting
August 2-5, 2012
Alexandria, VA

Resources...

Available at

www.acoteonline.org:

- Accreditation Surveys, Forms, and Templates
- Announcements & Newsletters
- Current ACOTE Accreditation Standards
- Overview (ACOTE History, Meetings, Members)
- Policies and Procedures (ACOTE Manual)
- Resources
- Schools
- Workshops

Staff Contacts:

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Questions about accreditation...

Please remember that all members of the Council are volunteers. Unless you are discussing logistical arrangements for an on-site evaluation, you should **never phone, e-mail, or attempt to contact** a member of the Council when you have a question or complaint related to ACOTE. All inquiries should be directed to the office at accred@aota.org or 1-800-877-1383 (extension 2914).

Accreditation Fees...

As indicated in the current fee schedule (available online at <http://www.aota.org/Educate/Accredit/Policies/Procedures/38143.aspx?FT=.pdf>), the next annual accreditation fees to be invoiced will be:

- \$3,350 for accredited main program locations
- \$3,350 for each accredited additional location

These fees will cover academic year 2012/2013. Invoices will be mailed by July 1st and payment is due no later than October 15, 2012. Annual accreditation fees are due each year, including the year in which an on-site evaluation is scheduled.

For new programs, the annual accreditation fee becomes effective with the first full academic year for which the program has accreditation status.

All reaccreditation fees should be made payable to AOTA and mailed to:

AOTA Accreditation Department
c/o Eagle Bank Lockbox
PO Box 347171
Pittsburgh, PA 15251-4171

Requests to pay fees by credit card or by electronic transfer may be directed to AOTA Accreditation staff at 301-652-6611 x2914 or accred@aota.org.