

ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE – PERFUSION EDUCATION

AC-PE Update

February 2023

The following update provides an overview of AC-PE activities for 2022 and a synopsis of the February 1, 2023 meeting of the AC-PE.

2022 Activities

1. AC-PE Site Evaluations

The following perfusion programs underwent accreditation on-site evaluations in 2022:

- a) University of Nebraska Medical Center – Omaha, Nebraska (October 2022) – Continuing Accreditation Evaluation
- b) University of Pittsburgh Medical Center – Shadyside – Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (November 2022) – Continuing Accreditation Evaluation
- c) University of Arizona – Tucson, Arizona (November 2022) – Continuing Accreditation Evaluation
- d) Lipscomb University – Nashville, Tennessee (December 2022) – Initial Accreditation Evaluation

2. AC-PE Executive Director

AC-PE executive director Theresa Sisneros left her position with AC-PE July 2022. AC-PE is grateful to Theresa for her years of service and extends their thanks and best wishes to her in her future endeavors. Theresa continues as Director of Accreditation for the Commission on Education of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) and as a resource for the AC-PE. Ronald Kruzel, MA, CAE was appointed AC-PE executive director in June 2022. Ron also serves as executive director of the Accreditation Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (ARC/STSA), another Committee on Accreditation (CoA) within CAAHEP.

3. AC-PE Mailing Address and Contact Information

AC-PE had a new mailing address and contact information effective summer of 2022.

Accreditation Committee – Perfusion Education (AC-PE)

10940 South Parker Road, Suite 455

Parker, Colorado 80134

303-495-8989

office@ac-pe.org

www.ac-pe.org

4. Program Candidacy Requirement

At the June 2022 meeting of the AC-PE, the board of directors unanimously approved required application for candidacy for all emerging perfusion education programs.

5. AC-PE Standards Revision

Per CAAHEP, the AC-PE must begin the process of updating the Accreditation Standards and Guidelines to the new CAAHEP standards templated starting in 2023. The AC-PE board will begin initial discussion on the revision process at their upcoming February 2023 meeting. Per CAAHEP and AC-PE policy, all communities of interest will be apprised of and given the opportunity for input throughout the Standards review and revision process.

6. New AC-PE Board Members

The AC-PE welcomes two new board members beginning their terms in 2023.

Jonathan Haft, MD
University of Michigan
American Association for Thoracic Surgery

Robert Tranbaugh, MD
New York Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist Hospital
American Association for Thoracic Surgery

AC-PE February 2023 Meeting

The AC-PE board of directors met on February 1, 2023, in Savannah, Georgia, in conjunction with the American Academy of Cardiovascular Perfusion (AACVP) meeting. Our thanks to the AACVP for their assistance in arranging the meeting. The following business items were discussed.

A. Executive Director's Report and AC-PE 2023 Budget Approval

The AC-PE budget and future revenues/ expenses were discussed. The 2023 AC-PE budget was reviewed and approved.

B. Standards Revision - Discussion

The AC-PE Standards must be transitioned to the new CAAHEP Standards template. The board has formed a committee and will be collecting data related to Standards updates on the minimum program award, international accreditation, and case criteria. The CAAHEP process incorporates both sponsoring organization and community feedback into the Standards revision.

C. Program Review Process – Discussion

The board discussed methods to improve the effectiveness of the program review process and on-site evaluations. Hybrid visit models were discussed to allow for on-site evaluation teams to have more interaction with program and school administration while on-site. The board also discussed

improvements in committee review of program applications. The board formed a committee to formalize recommendations and move revision items forward for board approval.

D. Alternate Policy – Discussion

The board discussed establishing an alternate policy which would allow for one additional appointment from sponsoring organizations. The purpose of the policy would be to assure continuity of board appointees when members term off and to assure adequate representation of the sponsoring organizations. The AC-PE will be inviting sponsoring organizations to comment.

E. International Accreditation

Recognition of international programs was discussed, and data will be developed in conjunction with the Standards review process.

F. Discussion on Extracorporeal Life Support Organization (ELSO)

The board opened a discussion on adding ELSO as a sponsoring organization of the AC-PE.

G. Research and Publications

AC-PE encourages research and publications in the form of student projects and research. In addition, the board discussed future participation of the AC-PE at professional meetings.

Please contact the AC-PE at office@ac-pe.org for questions and/ or comments.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ronald Kruzel', written in a cursive style.

Ronald Kruzel, MA, CAE
AC-PE Executive Director