COSPP Meeting Minutes

June 30, 2022

COSPP members present:
- Arvin Jenab, ND;
- Joni Olehausen, ND, Committee Chair;
- Cynthia Hope, ND;
- Susan Tebb, PhD, MSW, C-IAYT, RYT-500;

Staff present:
- Daniel Seitz, JD, EdD, executive director

Guests present:
- JoAnn Yanez, ND, AANMC executive director
- Melanie Henriksen, ND, AANMC president

Review Draft Proposed Revisions to the CNME standards, AANMC/CCACO comments on the changes, and AANMC/CCACO recommendations regarding the use of simulation. Discuss whether further revisions are needed and what to recommend to the CNME Board

Use of Simulations in Clinical Training

All participants agreed that simulations can play an important role in ND clinical training, provided they are thoughtfully developed in accordance with carefully formulated guidelines to ensure a quality educational experience. COSPP members agreed that the draft set of guidelines for the use of simulations developed by AANMC was a good starting place and that a subcommittee of COSPP should develop a revised draft for presentation to the CNME board.

COSPP members agreed tentatively to recommend to the CNME board that up to 20% of CNME's minimum clinical training requirements could be met through simulations (and that additional simulations could be used by clinical training programs that exceed CNME's minimum requirements), pending review of a revised set of guidelines pertaining to the use of simulations.

Apart from tentatively increasing the proposed limit on simulations from 10% to 20%, COSPP members agreed to suggestions to strike the phrases crossed out in the following draft:
    c. Opportunities to demonstrate competence in the full range of naturopathic therapies as set forth in Standard VI (note that ~~in lieu of patient interactions,~~ up to 20% of the clinical education experience may consist of carefully planned and well-designed patient simulation-type activities ~~intended to address identified deficits in the clinical training experience~~);

Use of Telehealth in Clinical Training

The guests representing AANMC stated that they support the proposed revision that allows for up to 25% of the minimum clinical interactions to be conducted via telehealth. COSPP members agreed to recommend to the board adoption of this revision.

Revision to the interview requirement under Standard V

The guests representing AANMC stated that they support the proposed revision regarding interviews of prospective students. COSPP members agree to recommend to the board adoption of this revision.

Discuss the recent NUHS 'hybrid' site visit and whether this model serves the needs of the CNME and the schools

Drs. Olehausen and Seitz shared their experiences of the recent 'hybrid' reaccreditation visit to NUHS. On the one hand, it is clear that some CNME accreditation standards (e.g., Standards II, III, VIII, and XI) lend themselves fairly easily to being handled remotely, other standards require an on-campus presence for some or all of the review.

If there are visitors who work remotely, then it's important to schedule both a pre-visit planning meeting among all the visitors as well as a pre-exit-meeting to discuss findings. Otherwise, the team will be disconnected.

It might be preferable to still send a full team (i.e., 4 or 5 team members, depending on the size of the program and whether the program is a CNME-recognized residency sponsor) to conduct the on-campus visit, but to also schedule video-conference meetings prior to the visit as a way of freeing up the team's time on-campus to focus on those tasks that require in-person presence.

Dr. Tebb suggested looking into a process used by the accrediting agency for social work programs, namely appointing a committee of board members to review a program's self-study report prior to the campus visit in order to identify those areas that the reviewers feel need to be focused on.

Dr. Seitz will work on fleshing out these ideas.

Miscellaneous matters, if any

There were no other matters discussed at the meeting.