Entry-Level Education Committee Reorganized

The Education Council Entry-Level Education committee has been reorganized to be more proactive and anticipatory of programs' long-term needs. Likewise, to focus on practice-oriented education, the lines between classroom and clinical education must be blurred.

The Clinical Education Committee, established as an ad hoc group in 1997, was charged first with developing clinical education guidelines and content. Their role then expanded to include the development of the Clinical Instructor Educator (CIE) Seminar. Having met and exceeded its original mission, the committee was dissolved with thanks in June 2002.

To ensure consistency between classroom and clinical education, Thomas Weidner, PhD, ATC, has been appointed to the Entry-Level Education Committee. Weidner will lend his expertise in clinical education and encourage research, disseminate information and promote the application of current and future knowledge of clinical education.

The responsibilities for the CIE Seminars will be split between the Continuing Education and Entry-Level Education committees. The CEC will be responsible for the planning and delivery of the seminars. The Entry-Level Committee's Clinical Education group will be responsible for the content. Seminar facilitators can be independent of these two groups.

Short-term goals for the Entry-Level Committee include developing classroom/clinical education models, examining appropriate program outcomes measures and investigating alternate methods of describing the educational competencies and clinical proficiencies. Through this, the Education Council wishes to reinforce the Entry-Level Committee's role as an advocate for the educators they represent.

In an effort to lighten the burden, distribute the workload and maximize individual areas of expertise, Dan Sedory, MS, ATC, has been appointed as co-chair of the Entry-Level Committee, along with Neil Curtis, EdD, ATC. Refer to the Education Council Web site at www.cewl.com for updates and useful tools for educators. nn