

**National Association of State EMS Officials
Training Coordinator's Council
Annual Meeting
Sept. 23, 2008**

Present:

Joel Bunis, AZ
Debby Teske, MN
Carmen Allen, KS
Curt Hasart, SD
Ed Gregoire, ND
Joe Ferrell, IA
Lee Parham, AK
Kevin Fitzgerald, MT
Mike O'Keefe, VT
Edward Kalinowski, HA
Russell Crowley, AL
Scott Stinson, MS
Michael Lopez, WA
Maxie Bishop, TX
Dennis Bang, UT
Edward Wronski, NY
Marilyn Bourn, CO
Kyle Thornton, NM
Nancy Steiner, CA

Barbara Chorney, NC
Bill Seifarth, MD
Donna Tidwell, TN
Abdullah Rehayem, MA
Ken Threet – MT

Dave Bryson, NHTSA
Deb Cason, Education Standards
Angel Burba, NAEMSE
Liz Sibley, CECBEMS
Linda Hunnicutt, Mosby/JEMS/Elsevier
Phil Dickison, Elsevier
George Hatch, CoAEMSP
Randy Kuykendall,
NASEMSO/CoAEMSP
Dan Manz, VT, EMS Education
Implementation
Kathy Robinson, NASEMSO

I. Call To Order

Joel called meeting to order.

Introductions

Joel explained that the Training Coordinators do not have any current projects in process. He encouraged everyone to become engaged and actively represent our council. We need to work cooperative with NAEMSE on several initiatives that we have not been active on.

II. Standards, Accreditation, Instructor Guidelines

Open discussion about how these are affecting our states and our positions as regulators.

III. Liaison reports:

A. Deb Cason: EMS Education Standards

Standards have been turned in to NHTSA

Council can help by looking at instructional guidelines. Open for comments.

EMT Level was the most contentious, due to the fact that it called for more – Hazmat, CPR, NIMS, Etc. Website has comparison document: www.nemses.org

Deb distributed the most recent communiqué – also on website
They are seeking input from the Training Council for implementation.

B. Liz Sibley – CECBEMS

80 to 100 reviewers helping to enforce and make recommendations for standards.

Item writing guidelines – requiring higher level thinking skills. Phasing out true/false – encouraging use of up-to-date texts.

Liz encouraged interested individuals to become reviewers.

C. Angel Burba – NAEMSE

Instructor's course – Donna Tidwell has been coordinator and is going to do the next level soon.

Discussion regarding Instructor certification services – for the master educator.

Discussion ensued regarding clinical sites for paramedic students.

Nancy, CA – stated that when the CoAEMSP team was coming for the site visit, that helped open some doors for clinical experiences.

D. George Hatch, Ed.D – CoAEMSP

Gave an overview of accreditation. The national EMS community supported the concept of accreditation. EMS Education Agenda for the Future recommended a “single national accrediting agency”

Described accreditation attributes:

- A quality improvement process

- Peer Review process is a key element

- Uniquely American, particularly in medical education

- EMS currently is the ONLY allied-health profession that does not mandate graduation from accredited schools.

Who is CAAHEP?

- Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs.

- Parent organization of CoAEMSP and 19 other allied-health professions

- Non-profit, non-governmental agency

- Reviews and accredits over 2000 programs in the US

- CoAEMSP is the only accrediting agency for EMS programs.

- CAAHEP does not supersede state EMS offices. They work within structure of the individual state statutes.

- Costs: Annual fee - \$1200

 - Institutional fee - \$450

 - Site visit - \$2,000 – 2,500

 - Total cost ~ \$1650 per year

Accreditation process – average of 6-12 months

For more information - www.coaemsp.org

Program Director Requirements: Bachelor degree has been the greatest impediment. Any new director who applies before 1/1/11 must show continual enrollment & progress of 15 SCH annually. Affiliation with a college or university is not mandatory. However the sponsorship requirement must be satisfied (i.e. post-secondary academic institution, foreign post-secondary, hospital).

Major Obstacles:

- Lack of Program Director with Bachelor's degree
- Lack of physician oversight
- Directors need to use sound educational theory and not taking things "right off the shelf".

Benefits of accreditation:

- Promotes continual self-analysis & improvement (student protection)

- Evaluates program from an outside perspective

Requirements for Continued Accreditation:

- Required to demonstrate compliance

- Action plans & analysis are required

- Goals to improve future performance

- New self-study every 5 years and site visit occurs

George will come to do state visits with the goal to educate & inform.

- Discussion ensued with questions and comments.

E. Dan Manz, Standards Implementation Team:

States are making substantial process in implementation.

Convergence occurring with text, National Registry, etc.

Monitoring text materials readiness. AHA release of new guidelines will be crucial.

A number of states developing their implementation plan based on availability of materials. Time-lines are becoming clearer.

Accreditation is a challenge for many programs.

NREMT interested because they are anticipating re-registration across a couple of cycles, to make sure that existing personnel transition cleanly to the new levels.

Discussion of possible transition course material, tool-kits, course materials, etc. necessary for transition.

Consultation with states: speaker can come and explain the national nature of the implementation. Nebraska will conduct a Webinar in December – will focus on accreditation issues.

Discussion regarding the role of the Training Council. Dan invited coordinators to come to talk to individual states, attend AHA breakfast, and choose a couple of people to work with NREMT.

Donna, TN will look at training materials for transition in a module fashion.

Transition Teams: Joe Ferrell, IA, Ed Gregoire, ND, and Carmen Allen, KS

EMT-I Transition material: Impact of intermediate being discontinued. Some states will keep the I-99 level. Bill, MD conducted a survey – many different options being considered across the nation.

Joel asked Linda if publishers were still going to produce texts at EMT-I? Publisher dependent.

Bill said that Atlantic states would continue offering 99-I regardless of the national trend.

IV. New Business

A. Joel will have to step down as chair due to new job duties. Bill Seifarth and Marilyn Bourn were selected as new chair-elect to assist Joel.

B. Military Transition

Is NAEMSE working on this? NREMT is working on this issue. Terry Markwood, NREMT has been instrumental in outlining the different levels.

Marilyn Bourn will work on national clearing document.

Ken Threet reminded that there is a Scope of Practice and a Scope of Education.

Phil Dickinson, NREMT stated that each service was required to set up program manager for EMS. He worked closely with the services. There is a movement that all services will be combined under one branch in about 2012.

May want to ask for veterans DD214 that describes past education.

C. Training Council Resolutions

Joel was asked to endorse the Accreditation of paramedic programs from the Training Coordinators to endorse resolution.

Donna Tidwell made the resolution that we endorse the accreditation according to current standards. Michael O'Keefe made the motion to postpone it until Thursday morning.

Vote: In favor, all: Nay: none heard, motion carried.

V. Meeting adjourned by Joel until Thursday AM.

Special Presentation:

Linda Honeycutt, Phil Dickinson