

Council on Podiatric Medical Education

Ninety-Sixth Annual Report, 2015

CPME Mission and Goals

The Council on Podiatric Medical Education (CPME) is an autonomous, professional accrediting agency that evaluates and accredits educational institutions and programs in the specialized field of podiatric medicine. CPME is designated by the American Podiatric Medical Association to serve as the accrediting agency for podiatric medical education.

The mission of the council is to promote the quality of doctoral education, postdoctoral education, certification, and continuing education. By confirming that these programs meet established standards and requirements, the council serves to protect the public, podiatric medical students, and doctors of podiatric medicine. To achieve its mission, CPME has adopted and prioritized the following objectives:

1. Encourage, enhance, and assure the quality of the educational outcome at all levels in podiatric medicine
2. Encourage, enhance, and assure the quality of the educational process at all levels in podiatric medicine
3. Maintain compliance with the criteria for recognition established by the US Secretary of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation
4. Regulate compliance with standards, requirements, and criteria established by CPME
5. Establish and maintain good lines of communication between CPME and its community of interest
6. Be responsive to innovative concepts in podiatric medical education
7. Seek out ways to improve upon the quality and methods of the CPME evaluation process
8. Review and resolve complaints received about colleges, providers of continuing education, residency and fellowship program sponsors, and specialty boards
9. Participate in the national discussion on issues concerning accreditation, including, but not limited to, maintaining membership in the Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors

As the accrediting agency for the podiatric medical profession, CPME supports the following principles:

Validity and reliability. Accreditation of podiatric medical education is based on the belief that podiatric medicine is a unique profession of such complexity and benefit to the health of the population that it requires a defined educational process based on consistently applied national standards. Podiatric medical education standards should be reasonable, valid, reliable, and consistent with the standards set by other medical professions.

Shared governance. Representatives of the profession are responsible for defining current and future podiatric practice, and CPME is responsible for setting quality standards enabling educational programs to prepare students for residency and residents for practice.

Respect for institutional autonomy. The sponsoring institution or organization assumes the responsibility for design, implementation, ongoing support, and continuous evaluation of the program's effectiveness relative to its mission and goals.

Public representation. Persons not associated with the podiatric medical profession play an active role in the accreditation, approval, and recognition standard-setting and decision-making processes.

Council Retains Its Status as a Recognized Agency by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation

The Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) has extended its recognition of the Council on Podiatric Medical Education as a nationally recognized accrediting agency through 2025. In the notification letter dated May 13, 2015, CHEA President Judith Eaton, PhD, stated that the Board of Directors concurred with the CHEA Committee on Recognition recommendation to continue recognition of the council as the specialized/professional accrediting agency for colleges of podiatric medicine leading to the first professional degree of Doctor of Podiatric Medicine (DPM).

At its meeting in Washington, DC, on May 4, 2015, the CHEA Board concluded that CPME was in full compliance with CHEA's *Recognition Policy and Procedures*. Based on a recommendation of the Committee on Recognition, CHEA granted the council a 10-year period of recognition, the maximum term allowable for continued recognition.

Although the primary purpose of CHEA is to recognize accrediting bodies, CHEA also proposes to coordinate research and debate to improve accreditation, serve as a national advocate for voluntary self-regulation, collect and disseminate data and information about accreditation, mediate disputes between and among accrediting bodies, and coordinate work to preserve the quality and diversity of colleges and universities.

Colleges of Podiatric Medicine

The Accreditation Committee is responsible for recommending to the council candidacy of new and accreditation of existing colleges leading to the professional degree in podiatric medicine. The committee reviews evaluation reports, progress reports, and other information submitted by the institutions within its review area.

The council took the following accreditation actions at its 2015 meetings.

April 2015 meeting

The council continued accreditation of the Des Moines University College of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery through April 2023. Based on a recommendation from the Accreditation Committee, the council identified no areas of noncompliance with CPME publication 120, *Standards and Requirements for Accrediting Colleges of Podiatric Medicine*. This decision was based on review of the report of the team that conducted a comprehensive on-site evaluation of the college in November 2014, and the college's written response to the team report and presentation to the Accreditation Committee.

The council also granted continued accreditation of the Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine through April 2023. Based on a recommendation of the Accreditation Committee, the council identified two areas of noncompliance with CPME publication 120. The requirements in CPME 120 with which the school was determined to be in noncompliance were 1B related to the strategic planning process and 6F related to having an organizational structure that allows for adequate student communication with the faculty and administration. This decision was based on review of the report of the team that conducted a comprehensive on-site evaluation of the school in February 2015, and the school's written response to the team report and presentation to the Accreditation Committee.

The committee and council considered the annual report submitted by each accredited college. Based on review of the annual reports, the committee requested that five colleges provide additional information or clarification of information provided in the reports.

Based on an Accreditation Committee recommendation, the council also continued the moratorium on applications for both new colleges of podiatric medicine and increased enrollment at accredited colleges.

October 2015 meeting

The council considered progress reports from five colleges of podiatric medicine.

The council requires that colleges of podiatric medicine maintain current and accurate program outcomes information on their websites reflecting student achievement and program performance. The outcomes made public must include the three measures required by the council (graduation rates, pass rates for the American Podiatric Medical Licensing Examination, and residency placement rates), as well as outcomes measures developed by the colleges (e.g., residency director and graduates surveys and senior clinical examinations).

The Accreditation Committee developed a standard outcomes reporting form for use by the colleges in 2015. In preparation for its October 2015 meeting, the committee reviewed each college website related to both content and accessibility of the reporting form. The committee elected to request that six of the nine colleges revise the content of the reporting form placed on their websites, placement of the form, or additional information provided by the college that may divert attention from the form.

Based on an Accreditation Committee recommendation, the council continued the moratorium on applications for both new colleges of podiatric medicine and increased enrollment at accredited colleges.

Residency Programs

The Residency Review Committee (RRC) is a collaborative effort of CPME-recognized specialty boards, the Council of Teaching Hospitals (COH) of the American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine, and CPME. The committee reviews, takes actions on, and makes recommendations concerning podiatric residency programs in accordance with procedures and requirements set forth by the council. The RRC meets semi-annually to deliberate and recommend approval of residency programs.

Residency actions taken at the March 2015 RRC and April 2015 CPME meetings included: (see pages 12–15 in CPME 330, *Procedures for Approval of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery Residencies*, for definitions of the following categories of approval)

- Approval – 8
- Provisional Approval – 4
- Probationary Approval – 4
- Withdraw Approval – 0
- Sustain to Withdraw Approval – 0
- Progress report considered, no change to approval status, additional information requested – 22
- Progress report considered, no change to approval status, no additional information requested – 24

Residency actions taken at the September 2015 RRC and October 2015 CPME meetings included:

- Approval – 6
- Provisional Approval – 1
- Probationary Approval – 3
- Withdraw Approval – 0
- Sustain to Withdraw Approval – 0
- Progress report considered, no change to approval status, additional information requested – 12
- Progress report considered, no change to approval status/no additional information requested – 18

During 2015, the council and RRC conducted on-site evaluation of 21 new and approved residency programs. As of December 2015, the council had authorized 608 first-year residency positions, representing an increase of 11 first-year positions from the number presented in the council's 2014 annual report.

Interim Document Review

The council conducts periodic reviews and revisions of its standards, requirements, and procedures on a scheduled basis (every six years). This review is conducted by an ad hoc advisory committee that represents the particular community of interest pertaining to the documents/area under consideration.

Three years after completion of the ad hoc review process, the standing committee responsible for accreditation, approval, or recognition in a particular area conducts an interim review of the appropriate standards, requirements, and procedures. The purpose of the interim review is to “fine-tune” any areas of the documents that may not be functioning appropriately, rather than to propose major changes in direction or philosophy, which would be within the purview of the ad hoc advisory committee.

At their September and October 2014 meetings, respectively, RRC and the council proposed revisions to CPME 320, *Standards and Requirements for Approval of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery Residencies*, and CPME 330. These revisions were made three years after adoption in 2011 of significant changes resulting from the previous ad hoc advisory committee process that converted all PM&S-24 and PM&S-36 programs to the three-year Podiatric Medicine and Surgery Residency (PMSR) with or without the added credential in Reconstructive Rearfoot/Ankle Surgery (RRA).

After its October 2014 meeting, the council placed on its website a notice of the call for comment and the draft documents. The council considered comments about the revisions from the community of interest at its April 2015 meeting. Based on review of those comments, the council elected to make additional, mostly editorial, changes to the documents and adopted the revised CPME 320 and 330, effective July 1, 2015.

The following is a sampling of the revisions to CPME 320:

- Requirement 3.11 related to the certificate of completion: The requirement was revised to identify clearly the required components of the certificate, including identification of the residency and the added credential and approval statement.
- Requirements 3.10 and 3.13 related to the residency manual: The requirements were combined into a single requirement identifying the mandatory components of a manual.
- Requirement 6.4 related to rotations: The requirement was expanded to include additional rotations approved as medical subspecialties.
- Requirement 7.1 related to verification of resident logs: The requirement was revised to include review of resident logs to ensure proper logging of procedures as well as ensuring residents meet the Minimum Activity Volume requirements.
- Requirement 7.3 related to the annual self-assessment: The requirement now details the components of a self-assessment.

Continuing Education Providers

The Continuing Education Committee (CEC) is responsible for reviewing applications for approval of new providers, petitions for continuing approval, evaluation reports, progress reports, and other information submitted by the providers within its review area. The council approves providers of continuing education that demonstrate and maintain compliance with the standards and requirements identified in CPME 720, *Standards and Requirements for Approval of Providers of Continuing Education in Podiatric Medicine*. Approval is based on programmatic evaluation and periodic review by the council and the committee. The primary purpose of approval is to promote and ensure high-quality education and continuous improvement in educational programs. Approval also ensures the quality of continuing education programs to the public, the podiatric medical profession, and state boards for examination and licensure.

As of December 2015, the council approved 52 providers of continuing education in podiatric medicine.

Fellowships

A podiatric fellowship is an educational program that provides advanced knowledge, experience, and training in a specific content area within podiatric medical practice. Fellowships, by virtue of their specific content concentration, seek to add to the body of knowledge through research and other collaborative scholarly activities.

Following four years of professional education, all podiatric medical graduates complete at least three years of postdoctoral training. Podiatric fellowship education is a component in the continuum of the educational process, and such education occurs after completion of an approved residency.

During 2015, the council and RRC conducted an on-site evaluation of one approved fellowship. As of December 2015, the council had approved 11 fellowships with a total of 19 positions and had determined that a new fellowship was eligible for on-site evaluation.

Ad Hoc Committee Comprehensive Document Review

During its October 2015 meeting, the council assigned an ad hoc advisory committee the responsibility to review standards, requirements, and procedures pertaining to approval of fellowships. The committee will conduct at least one meeting and several conference calls in 2016. The following individuals serve on the fellowship advisory committee:

Coleen Napolitano, DPM; Chair

Program director of PMSR/RRA, Loyola University Medical Center, Chicago

Residency and fellowship evaluator; member of CPME and RRC

Stuart Bass, DPM

Program director of PMSR/RRA, McLaren Oakland, West Bloomfield, MI
Residency and fellowship evaluator

Paul DiLiddo, DPM

Member of RRC; private practitioner; residency and fellowship evaluator

Robert Diamond, DPM

Program director of PMSR/RRA and fellowship, Saint Luke's Hospital – Allentown
Campus, Bethlehem, PA

Timothy Ford, DPM

Program director of PMSR/RRA and fellowship, Jewish Hospital & St. Mary's HealthCare/
Kentucky One Health, Louisville
Residency and fellowship evaluator; former CPME chair

TBD (recent CPME-approved fellowship graduate)

Lori DeBlasi, DPM (ex-officio), Florence, SC

Residency and fellowship evaluator
CPME chair

The process of review and revision of the fellowship standards, requirements, and procedures calls for revised drafts of documents to be considered by the council at its April 2017 meeting, with drafts of revisions to be circulated for comment to the community of interest immediately after the council meeting. Implementation of the revised documents may begin on July 1, 2018.

Specialty Boards

The Joint Committee on the Recognition of Specialty Boards (JCRSB) is responsible for granting new and continuing recognition to specialty boards in podiatric medicine, formulating criteria and procedures for recognition of specialty boards subject to the final approval of the council and in accordance with the broad policies for certification as adopted by the APMA House of Delegates, and exploring areas of mutual cooperation to the benefit of the recognized boards, the podiatric medical profession, and the public.

Certification processes are identified for podiatric surgery and podiatric medicine and orthopedics. The council recognizes the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery (ABFAS) and the American Board of Podiatric Medicine (ABPM).

Of 355 candidates, 272 successfully completed the 2015 primary podiatric medicine and orthopedics certification examination offered by ABPM and were granted diplomate status. A total of 2,966 individuals currently hold diplomate status in primary podiatric medicine and/or podiatric orthopedics.

Of 302 candidates, 154 successfully completed the 2015 podiatric surgery certification examination offered by ABFAS in foot surgery and were granted diplomate status. Of 135 candidates, 36 successfully completed the 2015 podiatric surgery certification examination in reconstructive rearfoot/ankle surgery (or ankle surgery only) and were granted diplomate status. A total of 7,139 individuals currently hold diplomate status in podiatric surgery.

Department of Education

The council holds recognition as the accrediting body for first professional degree programs in podiatric medicine from the US Department of Education, appearing on the list of nationally recognized accrediting agencies that the US Secretary of Education identifies as reliable authorities concerning the quality of education offered by educational institutions or programs. The council has appeared on the secretary's list since the recognition process was first legislated in 1952. The council's next petition for continued recognition will be considered in 2016.

Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors

The council is a charter member of the Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors (ASPA), which was established in 1993 as an umbrella organization to represent the interests of specialized accreditation. ASPA's mission is to provide a collaborative forum and a collective voice for the community of US agencies that assess the quality of specialized and professional higher education programs and schools. ASPA represents its members on issues of educational quality facing institutions of higher education, governments, students, and the public. ASPA also advances the knowledge, skills, good practices, and ethical commitments of accreditors, and communicates the value of accreditation as a means of enhancing educational quality.

Other Highlights of the Year

- The Collaborative Residency Evaluator Committee conducted a workshop for 10 new ABFAS and ABPM evaluators in Orlando on July 22. This full-day, small-group session prepared new evaluators to participate as observers in on-site evaluations during the fall of 2015. Experienced evaluators also attended the workshop, using the session as a refresher.
- The council conducted a residency director workshop at the APMA Annual Scientific Meeting (The National) in collaboration with the COTH. The July 24 workshop highlighted resident assessment, addressing areas of noncompliance with CPME requirements, and logging podiatric medical and surgical experiences. Presenters included Drs. Randall L. Dei and Jeffrey M. Robbins representing COTH and Drs. Charles M. Lombardi and Oleg Petrov representing CPME.
- RRC and the council neared completion of a significant project to develop a portal on the CPME website for use by residency programs, residency evaluators, RRC and CPME

members, and staff. The portal allows online payments and will soon facilitate secure and easy uploading of program documentation by residency programs for review during both on-site evaluation visits and committee meetings.

- The Nominating Committee conducted its 2015 meeting by conference call in July to consider eight potential candidates for three at-large positions on the council. The committee's slate to the council included all eight applicants.

CPME Meetings

CPME held its 2015 meetings on April 22–25 and on October 14–17.

At the April 2015 meeting, the council elected Lori DeBlasi, DPM, as chair, and Michael Trepal, DPM, as vice chair.

Dr. DeBlasi is a private practitioner from Florence, SC. Dr. DeBlasi has served as residency evaluator, RRC member, CEC chair, and chair of the council's most recent Continuing Education Ad Hoc Committee.

Michael Trepal, DPM, is Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the New York College of Podiatric Medicine and program director of the PMSR/RRA sponsored by SUNY Downstate Medical Center - University Hospital of Brooklyn, NY. Dr. Trepal has served as residency and college evaluator and Accreditation Committee chair.

At the October 2015 meeting, the council elected Drs. Keith Cook, Lori DeBlasi (third term), John Marcoux, and Michael Trepal (third term) to at-large terms.

Keith Cook, DPM, was elected to his first term as an at-large member of the council. Dr. Cook is the program director of the residency sponsored by University Hospital in Newark, NJ. He has served as residency evaluator and RRC member representing ABFAS. Dr. Cook will serve on RRC.

John Marcoux, DPM, was elected to his first term as an at-large member of the council. Dr. Marcoux is the program director of the residency sponsored by St. Elizabeth's Medical Center in Boston. He has served as residency evaluator and will serve on RRC and JCRSB.

2015 Residency On-Site Evaluations

APPROVED PROGRAMS	PROGRAM(S)	DATE
Aventura Hospital and Medical Center Aventura, FL	PMSR/RRA	October 9
Carilion Clinic Roanoke, VA	PMSR/RRA	October 16
Department of Veterans Affairs Maryland Health Care System Baltimore	PMSR/RRA	December 11
Franciscan Alliance St. Margaret Mary and Midwestern University Arizona School of Podiatric Medicine Hammond, IN	PMSR/RRA	May 15
Henry Ford Macomb Hospital Clinton Township, MI	PMSR/RRA	May 1
Inova Fairfax Hospital Falls Church, VA	PMSR/RRA	November 6
Inspira Medical Center Vineland Vineland, NJ	PMSR/RRA	November 20
Intermountain Medical Center Murray, UT	PMSR/RRA	April 27
Louis Stokes Cleveland Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center Cleveland	PMSR/RRA	October 16
Mount Auburn Hospital Cambridge, MA	PMSR/RRA	May 15
Mount Sinai Hospital Chicago	PMSR/RRA	November 13
New Mexico Veterans Affairs Health Care System and Kaiser Foundation Hospital Albuquerque, NM	PMSR/RRA	October 23
Oakwood Southshore Medical Center Trenton, MI	PMSR/RRA	October 21
Saint Luke's Hospital – Allentown Campus Allentown, PA	Fellowship & PMSR/RRA	October 30
St. John Hospital and Medical Center Detroit	PMSR/RRA	November 2

APPROVED PROGRAMS	PROGRAM(S)	DATE
The University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio	PMSR/RRA	November 6
University General Hospital Houston	PMSR/RRA	October 2
Wyckoff Heights Medical Center Brooklyn, NY	PMSR & PMSR/RRA	October 30

PROGRAMS ELIGIBLE FOR ON-SITE EVALUATION	PROGRAM(S)	DATE
Detroit Medical Center Detroit	PMSR/RRA	March 20 and 27
TriHealth Bethesda North Hospital Cincinnati	PMSR/RRA	August 7

CPME Volunteers

The time and efforts of many dedicated volunteer leaders are required for the college accreditation, and residency and fellowship approval processes. CPME members and staff extend their appreciation and gratitude to all those who reviewed applications, self-studies, progress reports, and evaluation documents and conducted on-site visits. Special thanks are due the individuals who participated in on-site reviews of new residency programs during the past year, often volunteering for, scheduling, and conducting visits in a matter of weeks. The council could not have accomplished its work without them.

Donna Alfieri, DPM; Freehold, NJ
Terence Alvey, DPM; Evansville, IN
Joseph Anain, DPM; Williamsville, NY
Barbara Aung, DPM; Tucson, AZ
Wayne Axman, DPM; Astoria, NY
Peter Barbosa, PhD; New York
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Michael Battey, DPM; Johnston, RI
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Sebastian Benenati, DPM; Roseville, MI
Joshua Bernard, DPM; Tampa, FL
Jack Bois, DPM; San Jose, CA
Richard Braver, DPM; Englewood, NJ
William Chagares, DPM; North Chicago, IL
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Keith Cook, DPM; New Providence, NJ
Stephen Corey, DPM; Kingstree, SC
Brian Cornell, DPM; Newport, RI
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Janet Dixon; Washington, DC
Timothy Ford, DPM; Louisville, KY
Denise Freeman, DPM; Glendale, AZ
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David George, DPM; Leonia, NJ
Steven Goldman, DPM; East Meadow, NY
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Vincent Gramuglia, DPM; Bronx, NY
Joseph Green, DPM; East Orange, NJ
Edwin Harris, DPM; Westchester, IL

Vincent Hetherington, DPM; Cleveland
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Respectfully submitted by the Council on Podiatric Medical Education 2015:

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Keith Cook, DPM
Anna Czubyj, PhD
Kieran Mahan, DPM
John T. Marcoux, DPM
Sheila McLaughlin, PhD
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