NCNM College Health Advisors to Recommend Naturopathic Colleges

National College of Natural Medicine (NCNM) in Portland, Oregon, has been added to the official list of medical schools used by advisors to recommend colleges to students who are interested in medical careers. The National Association of Advisors for the Health Professions (NAAHP) voted to include the Association of Accredited Naturopathic Medical Colleges (AANMC) as a permanent member of the AANMC will be listed with other medical colleges in the annual publication of the NCNM is one of six colleges in the AANMC. NCNM president Dr. William Ker pellet said the advisors “have accomplished a high achievement” for the college, adding that “this will expand recruiting opportunities significantly, and will undoubtedly affect future enrollment at our institution in a positive manner.”

Sue Yirku, INM
Executive Director

Science magazine published an article, “Review for NCCAM is Overtaken,” in its July 21, 2006, issue calling for the Institute of Medicine (IOM) to do an independent review of National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM) funding and policies, without participation of any stakeholders. According to author Donald Marcus, MD, professor at Higher College of Medicine in Houston, Texas, “we believe that NCCAM funds proposals of dubious merit in its research agenda is shaped more by politics than by science, and it is structured in its charter in a manner that precludes an independent review of its performance.”

As an emerging CAM health profession, naturopathic medicine and naturopathic health care industry to choose from 500 accredited institutions of higher education in Portland at the end of June NCNM hosted a reception for 46 health advisors of higher education to Portland at the end of June. The group stayed for dinner and a formal event coordinated through the Office of Admissions under the leadership of Andrea McKiipher, NCNM’s Director of Admissions. This is the latest development in a continuing national acceptance of naturopathic medicine and naturopathic medical education. The influential Cambodia College on Education and Research Officers recently launched a national campaign that will be a catalyst for their thinking even though the IOM (millions) would not be better spent on “the many excellent proposals that are not being funded,” because of reduced NIH allocations to biomedical research. He deserves an answer.

The Institute for Natural Medicine (INM) encourages the larger naturopathic community to respond to concerns on CAM scientific method and project merit. In the interim, perhaps someone should send Dr. Marcus a copy of the White House Commission Task Force Report on CAM, which was notably missing from his references.

In March 2002, the White House Commission on Complementary and Alternative Medicine Policy (WHCCAMP) presented to President George W. Bush its recommended research initiatives to increase public access to safe and effective CAM health care services. Full implementation of the report’s recommendations and action steps would fundamentally change the focus of CAM legislation and practice from the integration of CAM within the U.S. healthcare system. The report includes 104 action steps and 29 recommendations, among them:
- Improve public access to CAM providers by removing inappropriate barriers to insurance coverage.
- Increase financial support for CAM research.
- Provide education on CAM practices and professions to conventional practitioners.
- Provide assistance to states to develop more consistent regulatory standards.

Foundations Project Update

The Foundations of Naturopathic Medicine Project (Foundations Project) continues to expand its efforts through fundraising, virtual communications among writers and editors, and preparations for its first upcoming international editors’ retreat this fall.

Simillimum Campaign

Foundations Project leaders launched their Simillimum Campaign with last month’s issue of ND News and Review. The Campus is in response to a growing number of members of the naturopathic medicine scholars, students, practitioners, advocates and other professionals to support the Foundations Project. “In the spirit of homoeopathy’s own” Dr. Laren, project coordinator, says archly, “small doses can lead to great outcomes.” The Project hopes to raise $2,000 through donations to the Campaign over the next 12 months.

Virtual Writing Program

After months of coordinating, training, and testing MODELL (a virtual learning platform originally designed for teaching and managing on-line classes), it has been successfully translated into a virtual platform where contributing authors from around the world are coming together to discuss concepts and work together on their pieces of writing. Several writing groups have started up and forum discussions are beginning to take place. The latest writing topics include spirituality and theri medicatrix naturae mentioned below.

International Editors’ Retreat

Retreat participants Emma Berry, MSW and Louise Edwards, ND, co-leads of the Spiritualities section of the book, this fall began a process of reviewing the historic and current definitions of spirituality relative to health as it is used in the professions and across naturopathic college curriculum. Their goal is to codify the relationship between spirituality and naturopathic medicine and naturopathic medicine with Foundations authors, particularly those writing in chapters related to spirituality, the vis medicatrix naturae, and healing. “It is our intention,” Ms. Berry says, “to give the authors an initial definition that will be a catalyst for their thinking and then invite their input.” Dr. Edwards adds, “We want to be thoughtful and thorough in this process so that the end we have broad agreement on a definition that can be used throughout the profession without contradicting established beliefs and practices.” Ms. Bezy and Dr. Edwards will share their findings at the International Editors’ Retreat.

PLANT STEM CELL THERAPY

- LA Sept. 16 & 17 Weekend
Learn about the ultimate QI and Jing tonics. For centuries Chinese formulas employed deer antler for its rejuvenating properties and the success of these formulas have been shown to be attributed largely to the numerous stem cells founding the antler. This two-day weekend course learn about embryonic plant stem cells and how they can rejuvenate vital organs in the body. Numerous cases will be presented that show how plant stem cells can reverse numerous degenerative conditions by delivering defined cell populations to the tissue and prevention of commonly seen clinic presentations.

CNDI Accelerates Efforts to Increase Continuing Education Offerings

To ensure continued excellence in licensed naturopathic care and practice, the CNDA is now offering and approving continuing education courses. If you are interested in attending a course and want to verify credit approval, or to establish credit for a continuing education course you plan to offer, visit www.CNDA.org in the Newsletter section or contact desjardins@CNDA.org.