

Participants

| Name | Attending Forum on behalf of the following: |
|----------------------|---|
| Lisa Richard | Federation of Canadian Chiropractic, ICRS Chair |
| Kristin Grace | New Zealand Chiropractic Board, Council on Chiropractic Education Australasia, ICRS Vice Chair |
| Gemma Beierback | Canadian Chiropractic Examining Board |
| Bridget Bromfield | Chiropractic Association of South Africa |
| Gerard Clum | Life University |
| Daniel Côté | International Board of Chiropractic Examiners, National Board of Chiropractic Examiners |
| Christina Cunliffe | McTimoney College of Chiropractic |
| Elga Drews | Namibia Chiropractic Association, African Chiropractic Federation |
| Evalie Heath | Allied Health Practitioners Council, Chiropractors Association Zimbabwe |
| Judith Fuhr | Activator Methods International |
| Brenda Hendrickson | Canadian Chiropractic Examining Board |
| Nick Jones | General Chiropractic Council (UK) |
| Nerina le Roux | World Congress of Chiropractic Students |
| Phil McMaster | New Zealand Chiropractic College |
| Wayne Minter | Chiropractic Board of Australia |
| Jean Moss | Councils on Chiropractic Education International |
| Glenys Sharman | New Zealand Chiropractic Board |
| Shiro Chiro | Kenya |
| Michael Shobbrook | Councils on Chiropractic Education International, Council on Chiropractic Education Australasia |
| Naomi van Veen | World Congress of Chiropractic Students |
| Wong Yi Kai | Association of Chiropractic Malaysia |
| Donna (Liewer) Cohen | International Chiropractic Regulatory Society |

Other Attendees: Speakers, Open Session

| Name | Attending on behalf of the following: |
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| Richard Brown | World Federation of Chiropractic |
| Henry Chan | Hong Kong Chiropractors Association |
| Matthew Fisher | Chiropractors' Association of Australia |
| Philippe Fleuriau | Association Française de Chiropraxie |
| Arlen Fuhr | Activator Methods International |
| Peter Garbutt | Fédération Internationale de Chiropratique du Sport |
| Timo Kaschel | German Chiropractic Association |
| Fraser McClymont | World Congress of Chiropractic Students |
| Gerald Olin | Canadian Chiropractic Association |
| Kemmy Ritter | World Congress of Chiropractic Students |
| Lynn Shaw | Canadian Chiropractic Examining Board |
| Laurie Tassell | World Federation of Chiropractic |
| Leonard Wong | Hong Kong Chiropractors Association |
| Chris Yelverton | Allied Health Professions Council of South Africa |

Dr Lisa Richard, ICRS Chair, welcomed the attendees to the 11th Annual Forum of the International Chiropractic Regulatory Society, to include the second annual general meeting of the ICRS. She provided a brief summary of the history and mission of the ICRS. Attendees introduced themselves.

Representing the host nation, Dr.Timo Kaschel, chair of the German Chiropractic Association, provided an overview of the work of the association toward recognition and uniform requirements.

The program got underway, with the following presentations:

EXAMINATIONS

Pre and Post Licensure Examinations Around the World

Dr Daniel Côté, Chair – International Board of Chiropractic Examiners

Dr. Côté outlined the various examinations available from the IBCE as well as the ethics and boundaries exam available from its affiliate organization. He stressed that IBCE standardized examinations are available as tools that can be tailored to meet the precise needs of those who use them, recognizing cultural and educational differences among countries. Examinations are available to organizations and teaching programs.

How about Those Canadian Chiropractic Examinations, Eh?

Gemma Beierback, Chief Executive Officer

Brenda Hendrickson, Past Chair & Public Member - Board of Governors

Canadian Chiropractic Examining Board

Ms. Beierback and Ms. Hendrickson presented a deep dive into the aspects of creating and administering chiropractic professional examinations. They focused on the CCEB values of accuracy, defensibility, fairness, and integrity. Now in its 56th year, the Canadian exams have evolved to keep pace with the provincial requirements and educational programs. Provinces have jurisdiction over healthcare and must balance provincial rights & independence, labour mobility obligations, and their public protection mandate.

LEGISLATION

Understanding the Challenges of New Legislation: The Malaysia Experience

Dr Wong Yi Kai, President – Association of Chiropractic Malaysia

Dr. Wong reported that there are four jurisdictions in Asia that accept and regulate chiropractic, namely Hong Kong, Philippines, Thailand, and Malaysia. Presently, Malaysian chiropractic is governed under the Traditional and Complementary Act of 2016. Implementation of the Act is taking place in three stages.

First: recognition of seven practice areas (including chiropractic) and the designation of practitioner bodies, to include the Federation of Complementary and Natural Medical Association for chiropractic and osteopathy. When implemented, the second and third stages will address the registration of professionals and enforcement of the Act.

In a recent development, chiropractic service has been included in the public hospital fee structure. This change marks significant progress for integration of chiropractic into the Malaysian healthcare system.

ACCREDITATION

Accreditation in Canada (via electronic hookup)

Lynn Shaw, Ph.D., OT, Chair – Council on Chiropractic Education Canada

By way of Skype, Dr. Shaw provided insights into Canadian accreditation. As a council of the Federation of Canadian Chiropractic, the CCE Canada's educational performance and assessment standards are approved by the FCC's board of directors, comprised of representatives from each of the Canadian provinces. CCE Canada is also a member of the Councils on Chiropractic Education – International, and as such participates in regular reviews of chiropractic accreditation worldwide. The Canadian *Standards* document is presently engaged in a formal updating process.

Dr. Shaw also touched on the challenges involved in worldwide mobility, noting that accreditors are cognizant of the increasing role that accreditation plays in the regulatory review of international candidates for licensure and registration.

Does Accreditation Guarantee Educational Equivalence?

Perspectives from the Councils on Chiropractic Education – International

Dr Jean Moss, President

Dr. Moss reported there are presently 45 recognized chiropractic educational programs throughout the world. She described some of the key issues involved in mobility for those wishing to practice in a country other than that where they were educated, which can include both new practice opportunities and “coming home” for those educated abroad:

- Different educational systems
- Different entrance requirements
- North America requires undergraduate degree or specific university level courses
- Europe students enter professional programs directly from high school

For the past three years, the CCE-I has reviewed the *Standards* of all four international accrediting agencies, and with their input has developed an *International Framework for Chiropractic Education and Accreditation*. This document serves to help determine the equivalence of programs in areas of the world with different educational systems. Among other roles, it also assists in the development and recognition of new accrediting bodies in geographic regions where such agencies are not currently recognized. Visit www.cceintl.org to download a free copy of this publication.

Dr. Moss also reported that CCE Latin America has to continued to make progress and will soon be incorporating formally.

REGULATION

Dr. Clum raised the issue that there is significant confusion regarding the equivalency of chiropractic education and the varying degrees that are offered throughout the world. He recommended that a list be

developed to help regulators, students, and others with the terms conferred by recognized educational programs for chiropractors.

EDITOR'S UPDATE: Dr. Michael Shobbrook advised the ICRS that CCE-I undertook this task, and as of September 2019 this information can now be accessed in CCE-I's *Policy 5, Equivalence of CCEI Member Agency Standards and Degrees Granted by Accredited Entities*. [Click here to download this policy.](#)

Regulatory Issues Relating to Treating Athletes

Dr Peter Garbutt, President – Fédération Internationale de Chiropratique du Sport

Dr. Garbutt described recent changes in FICS, including hiring Secretary General Graeme Harrison-Brown and adopting and refining the strategic plan. FICS is also launching the International Certificate in Sports Chiropractic (ICSC), which is comprised of 10 modules available through the new eLS (E Learning System). The modules can also be taken individually, and include such topics as head injuries (including concussions) and ethics and boundaries. Participation is open to both FICS members and nonmembers.

Discussion also focused on the implementation of US legislation entitled *The Sports Medicine Licensure Clarity Act* was signed into law in October 2018. Per the Congress website: "This bill extends the liability insurance coverage of a state-licensed medical professional to another state when the professional provides medical services to an athlete, athletic team, or team staff member pursuant to a written agreement. Prior to providing such services, the medical professional must disclose to the insurer the nature and extent of the services." [Click here for the text of the bill which was eventually signed into law](#)

How Do Students and New Graduates Perceive Regulation?

Dr Naomi van Veen, President & Nerina le Roux, Director of Internal Affairs – World Congress of Chiropractic Students

Dr. van Veen and Ms. Le Roux presented an overview of the WCCS with a focus on its International Mobility Committee. In 2016, the IMC launched an international survey through every WCCS chapter, fellow students and alumni in 2016. There were 1019 responses. Approximately 80% reported challenges associated with practice abroad, including accreditation, licensing, board exams, examination, need for additional study, and general lack of information. Some 55% responded that they do not know the difference between accreditation and the licensing body in their region.

93% of WCCS members reported that international regulation is important to them. The WCCS is undertaking a project to develop information packets on requirements for practicing abroad, including the following five categories: Landscape, Requirements, Evaluation, Fees, and Visa.

The ICRS members offered to work together to share resources and information to develop reliable and up-to-date information that can be posted on the websites of both organizations, and to include the WFC wherever appropriate.

Focus on the UK's General Chiropractic Council

Nick Jones, Chief Executive and Registrar – GCC

Mr. Jones provided the vision of the GCC: "To be a respected regulator of a trusted profession." He outlined the core purposes and key statutory duties, noting that the GCC website is undergoing a complete overhaul to make this information more easily accessible to the public, professionals, and other stakeholders.

He noted that the GCC receives about 60 – 70 complaints each year, and described the process. Applicable cases are referred to the Investigation Committee. From there, certain cases are sent to the Professional Conduct Committee. In 2018, five sanctions were applied: Admonishment – 2, Conditions applied to licence – 2, Struck off – 1.

At the end of 2018, the GCC included 3,239 registrants in the UK, which showed 800 more than in 2007. There were 148 new registrants in 2018, with 126 from UK having completed an accredited program at a UK institution. Also, 17 foreign applicants qualified by passing the GCC 'Test of Competence.'

Finally, the GCC has adopted a concise five-year strategic plan. [Click here to download a free copy.](#)

Public Protection Roundtable: Issues Raised by Media Coverage

The Forum welcomed guests from a number of other organizations.

Of key concern for discussion was the media interest sparked by a YouTube video of an Australian chiropractor adjusting a newborn baby.

Drs. Wayne Minter and Matthew Fisher provided public information and guided the discussion. Attendees were cautioned to be well-prepared for questions posed by both media and legislators, and to be thoroughly informed prior to commenting.

They were also urged to have their organizations designate official spokespersons, and to take advantage of their websites to provide accurate information to the public and the practitioners.

Developing open communication between regulatory bodies and professional associations can help to offer calm and precise, truthful information that is consistent and not in substantive conflict. However, it is also important to recognize and respect the differing missions of regulators and associations.

In all cases, placing the protection of the public at the forefront can help ensure that unbiased and trustworthy comments are made.

Arlen and Judith Fuhr described the importance of thoroughly investigating whether facts are accurate, noting that they have dealt with numerous cases where reports have inaccurately referenced patented equipment.

Other attendees provided brief reports about issues their organizations are presently addressing.

Before the official open session concluded, Dr. Richard thanked the participants and speakers. She invited everyone to attend the ICRS' WFC Ethics Track session Saturday afternoon where several disciplinary cases will be dissected to learn more about regulatory processes.

The ICRS always welcomes information and news about regulatory issues worldwide.

The next ICRS Forum is tentatively planned to take place in conjunction with the fall 2020 WFC/ACC educational conference in San Francisco.

