



CoARC E-Newsletter

Greetings from CoARC:

With this second edition of the CoARC e-newsletter, we are pleased to bring you the latest news and information about the CoARC and the accreditation process. We will send you an update after each of the three Board meetings each year.

If you have any ideas about how we could make the newsletter better, please let us know!

**COMMUNICATIONS
CORNER**

Proposed Final Revision to Standard 1.01

Issue #2
Fall/Winter 2016

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 [Forward This Newsletter to a Colleague](#)

[CoARC Website](#)

At its recent meeting, the CoARC Board approved the following language to Standard 1.01:

"Except as provided in the following sentence, an educational sponsor must be a post-secondary academic institution accredited by a regional or national accrediting agency that is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) and must be authorized under applicable law or other acceptable authority to award graduates of the program a baccalaureate or graduate degree upon completion of the program. For associate degree programs that applied for accreditation or were accredited prior to January 1, 2018, an educational sponsor must be a post-secondary academic institution accredited by a regional or national accrediting agency that is recognized by the USDE. These programs may continue to award graduates of the program an associate degree as long as they remain accredited by the CoARC."

This change to Standard 1.01 as well as [changes to the Interpretive Guidelines/Evidence of Compliance](#) were forwarded to the CoARC's collaborating organizations (AARC, ATS, ACCP, and ASA) for endorsement. The CoARC will publish the official document once the collaborating organizations have responded.

For more information concerning this announcement, please contact Tom Smalling,



Welcome to our newest Staff Members!



Shane Keene

Associate Executive
Director

(Extension 107)

shane@coarc.com



Michelle Poster

Executive Office
Administrative and
Accreditation Services
Assistant

(Extension 100)

Executive Director at tom@coarc.com or (631) 912-7920.

New Accreditation Policies are set to go in effect on January 1, 2017. [Click here](#) for more information.

Attrition is Out...Retention is In! [Click here](#) for the revised definitions and threshold in effect for January 1, 2017

NEW CoARC PARTNERSHIP



indigointeractiv

The Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC) and Indigo Interactive have teamed up to develop a new Annual Report of Current Status tool. The new program is set up in a manner that is user friendly and comprehensive.

Some of the updates are:

- A new layout that provides easy navigation through the reporting components.

michelle@coarc.com



Progress Reports are due
January 20th
for those programs that
received a CoARC Action
letter this past year.

Please submit your progress
report and related
documentation
to Shelley@coarc.com on or
before the January 20th
deadline.

Check out this video:
[Why is Programmatic
Accreditation Important?](#)

- Programs will be able to upload supplemental documents directly into the RCS.
- Programs will be able to generate reports directly from within the RCS rather than having to order a pdf from the developers.
- Programs will have access to data input year-round.
- The new Interactive Outcomes map provides a visual representation of outcomes data for programs by region and state
- Staff, Commissioner, and Program Personnel pictures can be uploaded so that program personnel can put a face with the voice on the phone.

Previously input data will be imported into the system prior to the launch of the new program. The system will include on-screen instructions to guide and train end users. As always, CoARC staff will be available to assist anyone who is having an issue with the data input.

We hope to have the new program on-line by the beginning of 2017 so that all programs can have data input completed by the July 1, 2017 deadline. We look forward to a long and

productive relationship with Indigo and their team of developers.

About Indigo Interactive

Indigo Interactive creates dynamic software and web applications for accreditation and certification organizations. Their software solutions are the result of more than 15 years of experience in accreditation and over 20 years in technology. Their experience with the complex accreditation process allows them to combine various applications and platforms to solve many automation and efficiency challenges. Their systems are highly configurable and their workflows are purpose-built.

Find out more about them at

www.indigointeractive.com.

**RECENT CoARC
HAPPENINGS**



During the Award Ceremony at the AARC International Congress in San Antonio this past October, the CoARC —presented the 2016 Ralph Kendall MD Site Visitor of the Year Award to Dr. Tom Baxter.



During the Award Ceremony at the AARC International Congress in San Antonio this past October, Kelli Chronister (one of our Commissioners pictured to the left of President Frank Salvatore) received a "You Make a Difference Award" for helping save someones life while biking in a marathon.



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During the Lambda Beta Reception at the AARC International Congress, President

Leidich, was surprised when he was named this year's Lambda Beta National Honorary Member because we kept it a secret. Pictured are Tom Smalling (left), Brad Leidich, Vicki Gentzel, and Henry Oh (right).

TEST YOUR NBRC ANNUAL SCHOOL SUMMARY KNOWLEDGE

1. Individuals in a specific graduation year that passed the CRT exam and also subsequently took the TMC exam are counted in which table?
2. TRUE OR FALSE: The 'Graduates Tested' column shows the number of graduates for a given year.
3. Graduates that achieve the high cut score on the TMC Exam earn which credential?
4. To verify the accuracy of the data in the NBRC Annual School Summary, programs should use which NBRC report for the number of CRT credentialed

awarded by graduation year?

(answers at the bottom of the newsletter)

CoARC SCHOLARSHIPS

The CoARC is offering two scholarships:

CoARC George G. Burton, MD Student Educational Research Scholarship - to a student of a CoARC-accredited program for educational or accreditation research with practical value to the respiratory care profession.

CoARC Louis Sinopoli, PhD, RRT, FAARC Faculty Educational Research Grant - to a faculty member of a CoARC-accredited program for educational or accreditation research with practical value to the respiratory care profession.

The awards are \$2,000.00 with an additional \$1,000.00 allotted for travel expense. Awards will be presented at the CoARC Awards ceremony during the AARC Summer Forum. The application deadline is **February 15th**. For more information, visit our [awards webpage](#).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- The Executive Office was closed from December 19th through January 1st for the holiday break. We are now open for business!
- Upcoming CoARC Board meetings are scheduled for **March 9-11, 2017** and **November 9-11, 2017** both in Bedford, TX. Our Summer Meeting will be at the [AARC Summer Forum](#) **June 24 - 26, 2017** in Tucson, AZ.

WELCOME TO CoARC

CoARC welcomes two of our newest
Commissioners:
Anne Loochtan and Shelley Mishoe!



Anne M. Loochtan, PhD (NN2)

Education Campus (MEC) in Springfield, VA.

Dr. Loochtan replaces David Collins as the representative from the National Network of Health Career Programs in Two-Year Colleges.



**Shelley C. Mishoe, PhD, FAARC,
FASAHP (ASAHP)**

Dr. Mishoe serves as Dean and Professor at the College of Health Sciences at Old Dominion

University in Norfolk, VA.

Dr. Mishoe replaces Shane Keene as the representative from the Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions.

SPOTLIGHT ON A COMMISSIONER



Charles E. Cowles, Jr., MD (ASA)

My road to becoming an anesthesiologist is a bit different than most. Starting off with 14 years in the fire service as a paramedic and teaching EMS at a community college, then acceptance into the University of Texas Houston for medical school and residency, landed me a position at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, TX. The phone rang one day and San Jacinto College in Pasadena, TX, the school where I previously taught, was in

need of a medical director for their respiratory care program. Knowing it to be a long-standing and reputable program, I agreed to help.

As an active member of the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA), I was asked to fill a vacated position on the CoARC board of commissioners. Over the past 6 years as a commissioner, I have learned what CoARC is all about: students. The CoARC protects students from inferior educational programs, seeks to raise standards of respiratory care education, and protects the public by requiring schools to serve as a gatekeeper to the profession of the respiratory therapist.

I enjoy the occasional site visit and my favorite part is talking to the students. I explain what CoARC does and why they exist. I tell these students “The school administration may not listen to your concerns or even the faculty’s concerns, but they will listen to accreditors.” I have personally observed changes in financial aid, campus resources, clinical experiences, and budgets changed to give better resources as a result of a CoARC site visit. I look forward to another 4 years of service to the CoARC and I am proud to serve with such a fine group of people.

Inquiries related to this E-Newsletter can be addressed to:

Tom Smalling, PhD, RRT, RPFT, RPSGT, FAARC, Executive Director
E-mail: to@mcoarc.com

Answers to Test Your NBRC Annual School Summary Knowledge:

1. Exam: TMC - Low Cut table. Do NOT use this table to calculate CRT Credentialing Success!
 2. FALSE. The column shows the number of graduates attempting the exam, not the total number of graduates. So often there is confusion as to why a program does not meet the CoARC Threshold, but has the "right" percent on this report.
 3. The CRT credential. In order to earn the RRT, candidates must achieve the high cut score on the TMC and pass the Clinical Simulation Exam (CSE).
 4. The Credentials Earned Report
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