

Shane Keene

From: tom@mail187-199.suw11.mandrillapp.com on behalf of tom@coarc.com
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To: Shane Keene
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CoARC E-Newsletter

Greetings from CoARC:

With this 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!

Fall 2018

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COMMUNICATIONS CORNER

The following are highlights of CoARC activities since the last newsletter:

CoARC Offers New Job Board

Over recent years, the CoARC has seen a sizeable increase in the number of vacancies in Key Personnel positions and it has become very clear that finding individuals qualified to fill Key Personnel positions, and other respiratory educators as well, has become increasingly difficult. To help its programs address this problem, as part of its new website enhancement- the CoARC is pleased to be able to offer a "job board", specifically for the respiratory therapy education community. We are hopeful that using this resource will play a pivotal role in helping programs fill personnel vacancies. The cost for using the 'job board' is very affordable and competitively priced: a 30-day advertisement will cost just \$ 200; for 90 days the price would be \$500. In addition, the posting would be included in any electronic newsletters issued by the CoARC during the contractual time frame for the advertisement. For more information, contact [Shane Keene](#), Associate Executive Director.

Update on Degree Advancement

Effectively immediately the CoARC will no longer provide information related to any program that is not CoARC accredited. Several

CORPORATE PARTNERS SPOTLIGHT on a COMMISSIONER



Forward This Newsletter to a Colleague

CoARC Website



Letter from Retiring Program Director, Ralph Webb



As my retirement date of September 1st rapidly approaches, I certainly wanted to take a moment to express my sincere appreciation to you and your entire wonderful staff for providing exceptional communication, guidance, and assistance along my 30+ year journey here at Edgecombe Community College - Program #200373. When I became Program Director back in April of 1988, I possessed what I think most would agree were exceptional clinical skills. I quickly realized that I need much more than highly regarded clinical skills to develop,

years ago, the CoARC has created Degree Advancement (DA) Standards that delineate a set of required outcomes for those DA programs which have achieved accreditation, thereby providing information that is useful to prospective students. Accordingly, the retention of unaccredited DA programs in CoARC publications, including its website, would be misleading to prospective students.

The CoARC has also become aware that some institutions sponsoring both a CoARC accredited entry-level program and a non-accredited DA have not clearly identified the accreditation status of the programs. Policy 11.06 in the CoARC Policy and Procedure Manual forbids a program, or its sponsor, to mislead the public regarding either its outcomes or accreditation status. Policy 12.01 requires that institutions offering both accredited Entry into Respiratory Care Professional Practice degree programs and unaccredited DA programs in respiratory care must explain this difference in accreditation status to both potential students and to the community. In short, any information provided to the public regarding an institution's Respiratory Care programs must clearly identify the accreditation status of each program.

If you are considering pursuing accreditation for your DA program, the process has never been simpler. The CoARC is pleased to announce that both the [DA Standards](#) and the [application process](#) have been updated to better reflect the focus and the desired outcomes of such

maintain, and move a Respiratory Care Program forward in the manner that our college and community deserved.

That's where CoARC certainly provided the insight as to assist us as we began the process of instituting our program of study that has come to serve a substantial segment of Northeastern North Carolina. I'm so happy to have had the opportunity to speak with you at the Summer Forum in San Antonio, and again I'm so very pleased that we "finally" received the CoARC Distinguished RRT Credentialing award. That may I add, after a very successful Site-Visit conducted by two exceptional Site-Visitors (Dr. Tomas Hill & Ms. Karen McDonald) in early June leading to Continuing Accreditation.

All this to simply say Thank You to you and your entire staff. Here's to greater days ahead for the Wonderful Profession of Respiratory Care and for all you do in promoting Quality Respiratory Care Education!

Warmest Regards,

Ralph



CoARC Begins Review Process for Entry into Practice Standards

The CoARC began the process of formulating the 2020 Accreditation Standards for Entry into Respiratory Care

programs. The three largest DA programs in the US have all chosen to seek accreditation. Boise State University and the University of North Carolina-Charlotte have acquired Provisional Accreditation for both bachelors and masters level programs and the University of Cincinnati has submitted a letter of intent for its baccalaureate program. CoARC accreditation demonstrates a commitment to both transparency and to maintaining the highest standards. Accreditation also offers a competitive advantage when marketing programs to employers and the public because information about accredited programs is provided on the CoARC website. If you are interested in pursuing accreditation for a DA program and have not done so already, take a few minutes to read a commentary on the [value of accreditation](#). Please contact if you have any questions or would like to discuss CoARC DA accreditation.

IS YOUR PROGRAM COMPLIANT WITH STANDARD 5.03 AND POLICY 11.0?

Standard 5.03 - Public Information on Program Outcomes

A link to the CoARC published URL, where student/graduate outcomes for all programs

Professional Practice. This comprehensive review and revision procedure is an integral part of the CoARC's ongoing mission to serve the public by promoting high quality, state of the art respiratory care education through its accreditation services.

From now until **October 1, 2018**, the CoARC Board is soliciting comments from its communities of interest regarding the *2015 Standards*. It is important that these comments specify to which Standard (i.e. 2.04) or section of the Standards (i.e. Introduction) the comment relates. Comments should be submitted by email to the address below or to the feedback form on the Standards page of the CoARC website used exclusively for comment submission.

The Policies/Standards/Bylaws Committee will review these comments and the revision of the *Standards* will be an ongoing item on the CoARC meeting agendas until the 2020 Standards receive final approval. After the first draft of these *Standards* is completed, it will be distributed to these communities of interest for additional comment.

Interested parties are asked to provide their comments and contact information to [Shelley Christensen](#). Interested parties can also provide comments by completing the following survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2020EntryDraft1>.

Updates about the *Standards* review process will be posted on our [webpage](#).

Questions about the process for submitting comments and suggestions should be addressed to [Tom Smalling](#).

The 2018 Report of Current Status (RCS)

can be found, must appear on the program's website and must be available to all applicants and to the public

This year, the Board completed a major revision of its website and transition to a new website hosting company. As a result, the CoARC outcomes link that was previously used by all programs is no longer a valid URL.

The new URL that must be used is:
<https://www.coarc.com/Students/Programmatic-Outcome-Data.aspx>

Please update your program websites ASAP!

Policy 11.0 - Disclosure of Accreditation

During CoARC's last revision of its Accreditation Policies and Procedures Manual, the references to its physical address and phone number were removed. The primary reason for this was that the CoARC was receiving frequent phone calls from prospective students who mistakenly thought they were calling the program to obtain more information. The revised disclosure statement only lists the CoARC's website:

"The [name of program, CoARC program number(s), degree(s) awarded, and campus location] is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (www.coarc.com)."

The CoARC would like to provide you with an update on the situation regarding this year's Annual Report of Current Status (RCS). Our software vendor has been working diligently with beta testers to ensure that the new reporting system will be of the highest quality. The beta testing has resulted in several software enhancements, which, unfortunately, will require additional time.

Given the uncertainty related to the duration of the revision process, the CoARC will not set a new submission deadline until the revised RCS is ready to go. Rest assured that the new due date will allow ample time for you to contact the Executive Office with any questions you might have, and for completion of the RCS in its new format. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns related to the RCS process, please contact [Jana Anderson](#) or [Tom Smalling](#) at the Executive Office.

CoARC Commissioner to receive Honorary Lifetime AARC Membership

Shelley Mishoe, Ph.D., RRT, FAARC, FASAHP



Please update your disclosure statements
ASAP!

The CoARC is in the process of reviewing the programmatic websites for compliance with the recent changes affecting Standard 5.03 and Policy 11.0. Programs that are not compliant will receive formal notification of the discrepancies, the actions needed, and the deadline to achieve compliance.

SCHOLARSHIPS



Dr. Mishoe will be recognized at the AARC International Congress in Las Vegas. This is another milestone in a long list of her impressive achievements. In addition to being named as a fellow of The AARC and ASAHP, she is a past president of the CoARC. Her accomplishments as an educator and advocate for the profession are truly remarkable. Congratulations Dr. Mishoe on a well-deserved honor! The CoARC is very fortunate to have you as one of our Commissioners.

Student Survivor Hour

Students are invited and encouraged to attend the popular Student Survivor Hour at the 64th AARC International Congress in Las Vegas, Nevada. **The NBRC will host this helpful meeting for respiratory care students on Tuesday, December 4, from 5:00- 6:00 p.m. at the Mandalay Bay Convention Center.** If you are currently enrolled in a respiratory care education program, this meeting will highlight what you can expect after graduation, including the steps you need to take to become a credentialed practitioner. You will have the opportunity to interact with speakers representing the NBRC, AARC, CoARC, and Lambda Beta, which serve all areas of respiratory care including education, credentialing, and professional associations. Student Survivor Hour is highly recommended for any students who have never participated. The NBRC encourages program directors and educators to communicate this information to their students. We hope to see you at

Student Survivor Hour and the 64th International Congress!

CoARC has Scholarship Money to Give Away!

Please encourage your students and colleagues to apply almost every year one of these awards goes unclaimed.

Student Awards

CoARC George G. Burton, MD Student Educational Research Scholarship - \$2000

CoARC Stephen P. Mikles, EdD, RRT, FAARC Media Award - \$2000

Faculty Awards

CoARC Louis Sinopoli, Ph.D., RRT, FAARC Faculty Educational Research Scholarship- \$2000

For complete details please visit our [website](#)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CoARC Board meetings are scheduled for **November 8-10, 2018** and **March 21-23, 2019** both in Grapevine, TX.

Thank You to Our Corporate Sponsors



CoARC will also have our exhibit hall booth at this year's AARC International Congress in Las Vegas. Stop by and say or meet with our staff and Commissioners for a one-on-one consultation.



SPOTLIGHT ON A COMMISSIONER

Sarah Varekojis, Ph.D., RRT, FAARC



Sarah Varekojis is an Associate Professor and the Director of Clinical Education at The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. She started her career in academics as a Graduate Teaching Assistant, teaching labs and clinicals for the baccalaureate respiratory therapy program at The Ohio State University in 1996. She moved into a Lecturer position as she

worked on completing her doctorate degree, and has since advanced through the academic ranks to Associate Professor. She became the Director of Clinical Education for the program in 2008.

Sarah has over 20 years of experience teaching primarily mechanical ventilation, neonatal/pediatrics, and research in the program, and she coordinates all of the clinical rotations for the students. She enjoys watching the significant professional and personal growth the students experience as they progress through the clinical curriculum in the program. She also enjoys the opportunities she has to interact with a wide variety of clinical sites in many areas of the country as she develops culminating clinical experiences for graduating students that align with their career goals.

Her primary research interests are related to teaching and learning in respiratory therapy. She has recently conducted and published research related to peer teaching, smoking cessation training, service-learning, and preceptor training. She regularly involves her students in her research endeavors, providing them with opportunities to develop essential career-building skills. Sarah has held numerous professional leadership positions including serving as the President of the Ohio Society for Respiratory Care, as the Education Section representative to the AARC's Program Planning Committee, and as a member of the AARC's Education Annual Editorial Board. She also serves on the AARC's Membership Committee, the AARC's Ad Hoc Committee on Advanced Respiratory Therapy Practice, Credentialing and Education, and on the program planning and legislative committees for the OSRC.

Sarah has been a CoARC Commissioner and Site Visitor since 2015.

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

Tom Smalling, PhD, RRT, RPFT, FAARC, Chief Executive Officer

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