



SACS On-Site Visit Goes Well

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges concluded its site visit with Texas Chiropractic College and conducted its closing meeting with Richard G. Brassard, D.C., president of TCC and his Cabinet last week. The chairman of the site visit team was very complimentary of the preparation and technical support provided to the team by the College.

The purpose of site team visits by SACS is to examine the performance of the College against standards for accreditation as set forth by the Commission. The findings of the site team are confidential and the process is not complete until the Commission renders its final decision, which will be late 2009. The entire team was complimentary of the faculty,

students and staff. They expressed appreciation for all the arrangements, resources and support that had been made available for them to conduct their business.

“I want to thank all the members of the TCC family for their participation in our on-going work with SACS and the QEP,” noted President Richard G. Brassard, DC. “I realize this has been a bit of a stressful process for our campus, but it is also a positive process in our continued success.”

The primary focus for this accreditation review was the Quality Enhancement Plan, which is an internally-created guide and details the institution’s pursuit of educational quality and improvement. Regarding TCC’s QEP, it was stated to be “acceptable without recommendation”

by the SACS team. Additionally, the site team was very complimentary and mentioned several specific areas where the Plan was very strong. The team encouraged TCC to remain dedicated to the goals in the QEP and to continue the process through completion of the Plan. TCC will now move forward with the pilot courses during the 2009 Summer and Fall trimesters, and proceeding with the implementation phase beginning in Spring 2010.

Several comments were offered about the faculty and students; all of which were very positive regarding dedication, professionalism and enthusiasm. The site team was very pleased with the TCC campus and the physical facilities here.

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Thanks From Dr. Talmage, QEP Chair

Editor’s Note: *Dr. Talmage was the chair of the QEP steering committee and wished to take an opportunity to thank everyone for their hard work and support in the development of the QEP.*

By: Dorrie M. Talmage, MEd., DC

Last week representatives from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools visited TCC to review our Quality Enhancement Plan and some other college issues in regards to re-accreditation process. On

Thursday, the final day of the visit, we were informed that SACS approved our QEP. Thursday turned in to a great day for the TCC campus, so let’s all breathe a sigh of relief. However, this approval was only achieved due to the efforts of many people, and they deserve all of our thanks.

First, I would like to thank the college community for being involved in the topic selection last January.

Second, I would like to thank all

of the members of the QEP Steering Committee. The committee was composed of the following members: Dr. Alan Adams, Dr. Victor Benavides, Ms. Karen Bulow, Dr. Jesse Coats, Dr. Karlene Denby, Dr. Stephen Dyess, Dr. Jason Flanagan, Dr. Steve Foster, Dr. John Mrozek, Mr. Bill Quinn, and Dr. Isis Zaki, with myself as the committee chair. These individuals spent numerous hours over the last year researching, developing and writing

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THE B A C K P A G E

March 3, 2009

Volume 27, Number 3

Texas Chiropractic College...
...the future in health care.

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Upcoming Events...

Tuesday, March 10: Dr. Brian Kelly, President of New Zealand College of Chiropractic will speak about the profession in New Zealand.

Thursday, March 5: TCC Job Fair

Friday-Sunday, March 13-15: NBCE Board Exams

Friday, March 20: College Night With the Houston Rockets!! Special ticket pricing (\$13-\$65) available for all students, faculty & staff. Contact John Massey with the Rockets at 713-758-7291 or joshm@rocketball.com for more information. Tickets are limited and must be purchased by March 19.

Wednesday, March 25: TCC Vendor Day

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"I especially want to thank the members of the QEP steering committee for their untold hours of hard work in the development of such an important document," said Dr. Brassard. "This work is a vital part of the SACS accreditation process, and also outlines the academic direction TCC will take in the future."

The QEP steering committee are: Dorrie Talmage, M.Ed., D.C. (Chairperson); Alan Adams, D.C.; Victor Benavides, D.C.; Karen Bulow, M.L.S.; Jesse Coats, D.C.; Karlene Denby, D.C.; Stephen Dyess, D.C.; Jason Flanagan, D.C.; Stephen Foster, D.C.; John Mrozek, M.Ed., D.C.; Bill Quinn, B.B.A., C.P.A.; and Isis Zaki, M.D., M.S., Ph.D.

Thanks From Dr. Talmage, cont. from page 1

the QEP. I would also like to thank Dr. Jeff Weiss. He joined our committee late in the game as TCC's new "Case Coordinator."

Third, I would like to thank Pamela Vise and Carol Webb. Ms. Vise took the minutes at each of our steering committee meetings, which helped us to stay focused, and Ms. Webb did most of our literature searches and tracked down many articles for this endeavor.

Fourth, I would like to thank TCC's own grammar police: Dr. Denby, Ms. Webb and Ms. Patty Barnes. This trio took on the challenge of wading through the entire document to edit for grammar and comprehension. They made sure that the QEP would make sense to everyone.

Fifth, I would like to thank the QEP Marketing Committee members: Ms. Barnes, Ms. Lynn Benton, Ms. Karen Bulow, Mr. Bill Clements, Dr. Stephen Dyess, Dr. Jason Flanagan, Dr. Steve Haslund, and Ms. Joanna Little. Without their efforts the campus community would not have been prepared to discuss the QEP with the site team.

Finally, I would like to again thank the campus community. Many of you (students, staff and faculty) talked to the site-team members and your input was a valuable addition to our plan.

Now that we have taken a moment for our collective sigh of relief, the real work begins: plan implementation. The plan is a living document; so if anyone has any feedback, suggestions, or questions about it, please forward them to one of the QEP Administrative Committee members. Members are: Drs. Adams, Benavides, Denby, Foster, Mrozek, Talmage, and Weiss and our student representative, Jeff Clark.

As you no doubt saw on the front page of this issue, the SACS visit went well for us, especially regarding the full acceptance of the QEP. And while this is a huge step for us, I want to continue stressing that the QEP is a living document. The acceptance by the on-site committee is by no means the last step of the QEP process, just the completion of a giant-sized first step.

The QEP Steering Committee, which Dr. Dorrie Talmage chaired, exerted an incredible effort on many levels and in many areas to develop this plan. I applaud their dedication and hope that everyone joins me in patting them all on the back. But now that we've completed the first step, it's on to the next.

The QEP Administrative Committee has been formed with Dr. Talmage again serving as the chair. She is joined by Drs. Al Adams, Victor Benevides, Karlene Denby, Steve Foster, John Mrozek, and Jeff Weiss. The committee will also have student representation with SBA President Jeff Clark serving this year. This group has quite a task in front of it, the full implementation of the QEP over the next several years.

Dr. Talmage and her team will need all of our support as we begin with the pilot courses this summer and fall, then take the first steps towards full implementation next spring. They welcome any feedback, comments and suggestions regarding the continued improvement and refinement of the QEP.

I've noted many times in the past year that this process isn't just about retaining our SACS accreditation. The QEP will serve as our road map for the academic future of Texas Chiropractic College. As with any travel plans, there is no single, best path, but we do have a definite destination in place: providing the finest education available for future doctors of chiropractic.

As everyone fully embraced the plan as a printed document leading



President's Message

**Richard G. Brassard,
DC, FICC, FACC
President - Texas
Chiropractic College**

up to the on-site visit, I fervently hope that everyone's enthusiasm for this project will continue to grow as we move forward.

The implementation of the QEP is a wonderful way to kick off the second century of this celebrated institution.

As much as the spotlight has shone on the QEP in recent days, it is also important to acknowledge the contributions of many members of the TCC family with regards to the on-site visit from SACS. There were so many details that had to be managed in preparation for and during the visit, and everything was handled in a first-class manner. The details include: compiling, copying and organizing a multitude of documents for review by SACS; coordinating the committees' travel to Houston and then to campus everyday; making sure there were snacks and drinks available throughout the day; rearranging furniture to accommodate various meeting needs; arranging for meals for our guests and for those who participated in lunch meetings; and of course everyone preparing for the many meetings that were held.

I know that the Board of Regents and the Cabinet share my pride in the efforts made by everyone throughout this process.

Although the QEP has been accepted, there is still work to be done

with regards to the accreditation process. We will be receiving a report from the on-site review committee in the coming weeks. We will then have an opportunity to address any final concerns presented by the committee involving compliance with numerous Core Requirements, Comprehensive Standards and federal requirements.

Our final response will be due this summer, then we will receive a final determination of our accreditation status at the end of the year.

While we are cautiously optimistic that last week's visit will lead to success, there is still much work to be done.

In addition to the SACS visit, a very important event on the national chiropractic calendar was held last week at our nation's capitol: the 34th National Chiropractic Legislative Conference.

There were several points of emphasis which were addressed to various members of congress during the week's conversations. I will be reviewing these points with you in future issues of the Backpage.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard G. Brassard, D.C." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Richard G. Brassard, DC
President
Texas Chiropractic College

Around Campus...

Forcum Addresses Students

On Feb. 19, 2009, Texas Chiropractic College welcomed Dr. Ted L. Forcum, DC, DACBSP, CSCS, CES, president of the American Chiropractic Association Council on Sports Injuries and Physical Fitness, for a special lunchtime lecture. Dr. Forcum addressed an enthused audience on the subject of chiropractic sports medicine and his participation at the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, China. Dr. Forcum was the guest of the TCC Council on Sports Injuries (COSI) chapter.

Dr. Forcum was one of four chiropractors on the Olympic Sports Medicine team at the 2008 Olympics, continuing a growing movement to add chiropractors to various high school, college and professional sports teams. The first chiropractor to join an Olympic medical team was Dr. George Goodhart during the 1980 winter games in Lake Placid, N.Y.

During his presentation, Dr. Forcum highlighted the environmental considerations that were incorporated in the construction of the Olympic

Village, the first-choice popularity of the McDonald's restaurant and that English was the common language. The chiropractic clinic occupied a converted apartment, where Dr. Forcum spent about 16 hours each day treating athletes. "One of the best parts of working with Olympic athletes," Dr. Forcum said, "was knowing that we were not only helping with injuries, but were actually helping athletes prepare for future games and world competition." His slide presentation included the many American athletes he treated. From the athletes who received care, at least two have since enrolled in chiropractic colleges.

The Polyclinic, which provides comprehensive health services to athletes at the Olympic games, will, for the first time, include chiropractic care at the next Olympics in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. The credibility of chiropractic is rapidly improving each time, as chiropractors find answers to injuries that avoid more invasive medical treatment or large scale use of medication. After giving several examples of specialized care he provided, Dr. Forcum added that he provided about 98% of all the kinesio taping of athletes.

Though he was there to provide care and treatment to the body, Dr. Forcum said that sports medicine goes beyond that. "You really develop a relationship with these athletes. It's not just fixing their injuries alone, but also talking and being a friend. A lot of what we did in Beijing was friendship and relationship building. There is a tremendous emotional aspect to sports medicine."

"Use your education to realize your dream," Dr. Forcum advised. "Chiropractic college provides the framework and foundation for you to create your life's work and to make your dreams come true. Set goals and strive each day to achieve them."

IMPORTANT: FINAL EXAM SPECIAL NOTICE FOR MIXED SCHEDULE STUDENT

Final exams will be held Monday, April 6th – Wednesday, April 15th. The final exam schedule is now available in the registrar's office. Mixed schedule students need to look at the exam schedule and see if they have two exams scheduled at the same time. If there are exam overlaps, the mixed schedule students must advise the registrar's office by noon on Friday, March 27th.

Wednesday, April 15th will be utilized to allow mixed schedule students to take any overlapping finals. A full two hours will be set aside for affected students at 9:00 a.m. in L-203. Only those students with more than one makeup exam to take on that Wednesday will be allotted time beyond the 9:00-11:00 a.m. time frame.

The procedure will allow mixed schedule students a full two hours for each of their final exams and avoid the necessity of receiving an incomplete grade due to scheduling conflicts.

TCC Pageant Rescheduled For June 12-13

The Texas Chiropractic College Spring Pageant originally scheduled for March 6-7 has been rescheduled for June 12-13. It will still be held at the Elliott Auditorium on the TCC campus. Individuals who have registered for the event will be contacted directly regarding the schedule change. Registration remains open to ages 1 and up, with both male and female competitions. All participants will receive a trophy, and the winner of the "18 Year & Older" category will receive a \$1,000 scholarship to any accredited college. For more information, please contact Debbie Salisbury, TCC Director of Development at 281-998-6085 or dsalisbury@txchiro.edu.

