

President's Report 2012

2012 has been an active year for ECCE. So far this year Executive has sent 3 Evaluation Teams to institutions with a 4th evaluation scheduled in December. AECC received re-accreditation for a 5-year period following an evaluation visit in January and February. A Team was sent to Durban, South Africa in September for the first re-accreditation evaluation for the programme at the Durban University of Technology. The result of the evaluation will be decided at the November CoA meeting. RCU Maria Cristina welcomed its first Evaluation Team in the second half of October. Despite the very tight timeframe it is hoped that the report will be completed and disseminated to CoA in time for the CoA meeting. The final evaluation for 2012 is scheduled in December and takes place at the IFEC Toulouse campus. This will be an initial evaluation for full-accreditation of the second French chiropractic programme. In February 2013, the programme at the University of Southern Denmark will host a Team for a re-accreditation evaluation visit. Such a hectic programme of evaluation requires organisation and hard work. I would like to recognise the efforts of Evaluation Team members, Chairs and in particular, the untiring work of the Evaluation Secretary, David Burtenshaw.

As a condition of membership in ENQA, ECCE was required to send a 2-year review report to the ENQA Board outlining how ECCE has responded to the Board's recommendations. ENQA received the report in September and were to discuss the matter at the next Board meeting. ECCE remains an active participant at ENQA events. Such events provide an excellent opportunity for sharing of best practice in the field of quality assurance in Europe. Executive has sent representatives to the ENQA sponsored MAP-ESG seminar held in Copenhagen in January, where findings of the ESG review group were discussed. In April, both the President and Vice-President attended the ENQA Forum in Paris where the topics under discussion included "Impact of quality assurance", and, "How to increase the independence of QA agencies?" These are both important topics in the context of chiropractic education accreditation in Europe. The final ENQA event attended by ECCE was the AGM held in Basel, Switzerland in October.

In September, the ECCE was represented at the WFC Education Conference in Perth. This is an important meeting place for educators, clinicians, politicians and accrediting agencies. Parallel to the WFC conference, the International Chiropractic Regulatory Forum met. The aim of this group is to facilitate the international transportability of chiropractors. A key undertaking by this group is a review of the accreditation standards of the CCE's with a view to finding areas of commonality and thereby updating the CCEI Model Core Standards. This work is being performed by CCEI President Lesley Biggs. Finally, the annual European Quality Assurance Forum will be held in late November and attended by Arvid Thorkeldsen. This is an important gathering for all stakeholders in quality assurance in Europe and a priority for continued ECCE involvement.

ECCE has received two resignations from Council. Valerie Nichols has moved out of the field of chiropractic education and therefore resigns her seat on Council due to no longer fulfilling

the requirements. Due to the demands of a busy schedule, Daniel Muehlemann is unable to continue his commitment to ECCE. I would like to thank Daniel for his contribution as an active member of CoA and Council. Daniel is an experienced, trained ECCE evaluator and it is hoped that Executive will continue to have use of his services on future evaluation Teams.

ECCE Executive Secretary Mandy Stagg has settled into her role during the last year and has become an integral part of the Executive team. As always I must express my gratitude to Executive and Council for their continued hard work in providing quality assurance services for chiropractic education in Europe and South Africa.

TL Raven
President ECCE
October 2012