

PTA Educators Open Forum at PT '03
June 20, 2003

T. Hester (Chair of the PTA Educators SIG) facilitated the meeting and J. Smith (Secretary of the PTA Educators SIG) recorded the discussions.

- HIPPA:
 - Discussed conflicts and risks related to:
 - Clinical education;
 - Case presentations/studies.
 - P. Leshner developed a PowerPoint presentation which she volunteered to post to the PTA Educators SIG website.
 - A variety of opinions were expressed regarding whether or not education institutions were “business associates” of clinical institutions.
- Self-study process and reports:
 - Discussion about tools or resources for institutional assessment (related to institutional mission).
 - Recommendation that American Association for Higher Education has good resources at <http://www.aahe.org/>.
- Listservs / e-mail communication groups:
 - Reminder that the Education Section’s listserv is a great resource. Join by sending a blank e-mail to aptaeducation-subscribe@yahoogroups.com or go to <http://www.aptaeducation.org/listserv.html> for more information.
 - Some consortiums of PTA education programs are using listservs with success.
 - Discussion about the benefits of the PTA Educators SIG having a listserv vs. maintaining their presence on the Education Section’s listserv.
- CPI
 - Discussion about the quality of responses (i.e. no comments) submitted by clinical instructors.
 - The APTA’s Department of Education will revisit the CPI in the next 1 – 2 years.
 - Discussion on grading from the CPI:
 - Merits of identifying thresholds for passing to the clinical instructor;
 - Grade determination;
 - Grading of pass = A and fail = F confounds GPA calculation;
 - Many participants weight the red flag items higher for grading based on ‘safety’ and ‘ethical’ expectations.
 - Use of the “electronic” (digital) CPI remains rare at this time.
- Generic Abilities for the PTA

- Discussion that Generic Abilities is a popular and effective resource for addressing students' behavior. Recommendation that this tool addresses students' needs / success, and is not just a punitive tool.
 - Discussion on the prohibition of body piercing(s) in the clinic for safety.
 - Discussion of the values / behaviors within the culture of (young) students which conflicts with the culture among professionals in the clinic.

- Action from the APTA's House of Delegates
 - T. Hester recommended that the HoD took action that will interest PTA educators and we should check with our Chapter's delegates and monitor the APTA's web site for information on:
 - RC 32 (Mentoring of professionalism in academic and clinical education);
 - RC 14;
 - RC 25;
 - RC 27;
 - RC 32;
 - RC 43.

- Discussion on fostering student membership in the APTA:
 - "It is a matter of professionalism."
 - Programming for the PTA and other activities are increasing to make the members feel valued by the APTA.

- APTA: information on committees and other appointed groups is available at http://www.apta.org/membership/involved/participate_governance/appointed_groups_info .
 - Consider nominating yourself for service through committees such as the Advisory Panel on Education, the Committee for Screening Proposals / Abstracts, the Committee on Cultural Competence or one of the other valuable activities undertaken by the APTA.

- Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy Examiners (FSBPTE)
 - The FSBPTE is adjusting the exam, relative to current practices, with an anticipated increase in the pass rate among PTA candidates.
 - Recommendation that as educators we should remain in contact and communication with our local Board of Examiners.