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EAST CENTRAL REGION, ACPE

Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio & Pittsburgh, PA.

April 2007

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RIDGES AND HOLLERS

**Rev. D. Cal Brand,
Regional Director**

The Daffodils, Forsythia, and flowering trees are blooming, and my spirits are lifted: Longer days and more sunshine do make a difference. We planted a couple of flowering pear trees last fall, and they are covered with wonderful, white blossoms. This feast for the eye is also a reminder that it is time to get the garden ready and make other preparations for summer.

We have first news of a summer CPE Day to be held at Richmond, IN on July 18th. As others get scheduled, we will try to be sure they are announced. The rush is about over for summer unit Admission interviews and decisions are being made.

I am freshly back from Educational Consultations in Fort Wayne and Toledo. It was good to be with colleagues, to make some new acquaintances, and engage students in reflection on their process.

As is most always the case in such experiences, I came away with renewed appreciation with how seriously and carefully presenters and committee members take their work. The students certainly "got their money's worth." I know of few other venues in which students find their ministry and understanding of themselves in ministry taken so seriously and with such care.

These events are also opportunities for fellowship and a form of peer review. When multiple centers work together, it gives us a chance to have time with colleagues we don't see so often and present our work.

Those presenters' reports and the way we interact with students in the committee provide a way we learn about one another and ourselves. And we also get the chance to reconnect, offer support, and enjoy a meal together.

Most of the students we met demonstrated solid confirmation of the value of CPE – they were using the process for growth/learning. Nonetheless, I found myself reflecting on this consultation process and would like to share some thoughts. First, in general, students seem to get unnecessarily psyched up. As I understand these consultations, they are friendly opportunities in which students have the opportunity to present their work and learning to a wider community of supervisors and/or helping professionals (APC chaplains, social workers, nurses, clinically trained pastors, etc.). No votes are taken and no grades are given. I suspect supervisors could do more to disarm some of this non-productive stress.

Second, there may be a problem with doing consultations on a *schedule* (end of second unit, or first week of February, for example). Some students are not going to be able to make constructive use of a consultation after four units, while some may be "ready" after one unit. In the consultations just completed, one committee provided a student a lot of good vocational consultation ("how will I earn a living?"). Another spent nearly an hour doing supervision (or pre-supervision) with a student who had significant trust issues in the group setting. Neither student received much consultation on their CPE experience and goals. Using a schedule or "cookie cutter" approach may not be the best strategy. I suspect it is better for supervisor and student to decide together about *readiness*.

Few will be surprised to hear me advocating a less formal approach. My hunch is that the more formal the framework, the more unnecessary anxiety students experience. In both of my recent experiences, the committees were set up pretty much like certification committees, and we followed similar processes. That included having presenter's reports which required a lot of effort from the various presenters. An alternative might be having one member of the committee prepare a short list of questions/interests that emerged from a close review of the materials submitted. This person could serve as convener and advocate – helping the student present her/himself. In place of a committee action report (*a la* certification) perhaps the convener and the student (with assistance from the committee) could summarize the consultation with particular attention to how the process went and implications for future learning goals.

As always, I would welcome feedback on these reflections and wonder if this topic might not have some potential as a workshop at a regional meeting. I have been a strong advocate for the consultative process and feel very good about our region's commitment to assisting students in this way.

Now, I need to offer an apology and a correction. In an earlier newsletter and at the regional meeting I mistakenly gave the alert that a *pilot* complaint process with APC would go into effect this summer. Well, it turns out I was a year early. So, don't change your handbooks – yet. My name as RD should continue to be listed for contact by students when the local complaint process has not produced a satisfactory outcome.

Note the following email from Karrie Oertli, Chair ACPE Accreditation Commission: *"As reported in the Fall, 2006 issue of ACPE News, APC and ACPE are collaborating on streamlining professional ethics processes. A pilot project relating to this will start in January, 2008. The national office will make sure adequate word gets out about the pilot, the process, and any requirements for change. The pilot does not require replacement of the local center's complaint procedure and policy, which still should be utilized until the pilot project is completed. I provide this clarification so that regional accreditation committee chairs and regional directors can assist in quelling any concerns our supervisors might have about needing to change policies and procedures in relation to professional ethics or grievances: they are not meant to be changed at this time."* My apologies for getting ahead of myself.

Joe Roberts, Supervisory Candidate at Howard Regional Hospital in Kokomo, IN, will be meeting the national certification commission on May 1st in San Francisco. Keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

Peace, Cal Brand ©

SUMMARY OF SURVEY BY THE DIVERSITY TASK FORCE

Rev. Yoke-Lye J. Lim, Chair

The survey was initiated in our October 2006 ECR newsletter. 17 responses were received. Here is a very succinct summary:

1. What is diversity for me?

- * Differences are the places of blessings.
- * A complex of skills and curiosities. Respect for diversity is a bit of a sticky wicket, particularly when it comes to worship, because a worship that tries to be all things to all people ends up, in my experience, satisfying few. So when I think about diversity, I think about how I understand the other and how I am understood by the other. Do we have a common language? At the very least I would like to see our region not continue to schedule meetings during the Jewish Holy Days. I think there needs to be a list of each religion's holidays and a means of prioritizing so that no meeting conflicts with significant holy days for any of our members.
- * A voice from the dominant culture usually has to come in to support an idea that comes from a person of minority, or else, that voice (of that minority person) usually is not validated!
- * A spectrum of emotions and perspectives.
- * Diversity is food for my spirit, key to growth, challenge and delight.
- * Embracing persons of disabilities.
- * Awareness of otherness, power differentials and my potential for abuse of power.
- * Willingness to share my entitlement as a White person with those who are not.
- * Celebrate with those who are different from me. Surrender my needs to compete.
- It is more than White privileges and Black struggles. Or else, members of other racial-ethnic groups are "ignored" or oppressed.

2. What do I want to see our region BECOME in my understanding and experience of diversity:

(a) three years from now:

- * Welcoming to persons regardless of where they are in their educational process.
- * More variety in faith tradition expressions.
- * Willing to engage in our unconscious/conscious assumptions and stereotypes in our regional activities and planning of events.
- * Addresses what we do not know.
- * Better listeners of a different voice.
- * To nurture a commitment of consistency in addressing our priority to diversity so that it may become a norm.
- * Subgroups that are already formed needs to examine if they become a barrier to hinder

new comers from entering to joining them.

- * I am unsure.
- * Workshops, workshops, workshops on unfamiliar subjects, such as the one on "Pentecostalism and CPE".

(b) five years from now:

- * Unsure.
- * Ignorance eliminated.
- * Dominant culture supervisors to be more aware of their cultures, aware of their perspectives and to have changed in some ways by the "others".
- * That we can see people for their competence instead of tokenism.
- * That each certification committee would yield a space for a supervisor of color to be in the committee so the candidate is evaluated from at least a cultural perspective of diversity.
- * Cultural competency training for supervisors.
- * Redefine our meanings for our ECR "community".
- * To be open to examine stereotypes. For example, not every person of minority is a CPE student.

3. *Is there a person (of multicultural background) you would recommend to be a speaker/presenter at our regional gatherings?*

(A few names were submitted. Names will be provided upon request.)

yilm@clarian.org

**SUMMER CPE DAY, JULY 18, 2007
EARLHAM, RICHMOND, IN.
REV. STAN MULLIN
EVENT COORDINATOR**

A summer CPE Day is being planned for July 18, 2007 at Earlham. The day is open and all members of the region are welcome to participate. Program details will be provided as they become available. In the meantime, you may contact Stan.

smullin@clarian.org

**ATTN: ECR CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS – IF
YOU LOST A WATCH IN THE LARGE
MEETING ROOM CONTACT
hjoanlyke@yahoo.com**

JOB/EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- The Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland, OH – has an immediate opening for a **CPE Supervisor** as Coordinator of Clinical Pastoral Education in an expanding department. Responsibilities include managing a CPE Program, CPE supervision, providing pastoral care to patients, families and staff, with other administrative functions. Qualifications include, but are not limited to, a Master of Divinity degree, certification, ordination and ecclesiastical endorsement. Competitive salary and benefits. Send inquiries or résumé to: The Rev. Dennis E. Kenny, Director of Pastoral Care, H19, Cleveland Clinic, 9500 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH, 44195. Phone (216) 444-2518. FAX (216) 445-9678.
- The Cleveland Clinic Foundation has seven positions for the **2007-2008 CPE Residency program**. The Residency stipend is \$25,000 - \$26,000. Apply by 2/28/07 to: The Rev. Dennis E. Kenny, Director of Pastoral Care, H19, The Cleveland Clinic Foundation, 9500 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, 44195. (216) 444-2518; FAX (216)-445-9678. Visit the Web site for more information: <http://www.clevelandclinic.org/pastoralcare>

ACPE Certification Calendar

The next opportunity to meet the East Central Region Certification committee will be Thursday, September 27, 2007, at the Sheraton Suites/Akron Cuyahoga Falls Hotel, Akron, OH. **Applications to meet the committee must be postmarked to Beth Newton Watson by Monday, August 13, 2007.** Materials must be postmarked to the committee members by August 28, 2007.

Beth Newton Watson, Certification Co-Chair (regional)
317-217-3192; bwatson@clarian.org

For questions regarding the National Certification Commission contact: Ann Letson, Certification Co-Chair (national) (502) 636-8085
<ann.letson@nortonhealthcare.org>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 05/2-5/07-ACPE Leadership Meeting, Hyatt Regency, San Francisco Airport.
- **09/28-29/07**-ECR Fall meeting, Sheraton Suites Akron/Cuyahoga Fall, Akron, OH. – Connie Bonner, Sergei Petrov, Program Co-Chairs.
- **10/24-27/07**-ACPE Conference, Adolphus Hotel, Dallas, TX.
- 02/22-23/08- ECR Spring meeting, Hueston Woods State Park Lodge, College Corner, OH.
- **09/2008**-ECR Fall meeting, Harmony, IN. Dates to be determined – Elizabeth Price, Program Chair

DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER

The deadline for the May, Newsletter is: Thursday, April 26, 2007. Send electronic copy to: hjoanlyke@yahoo.com or by regular mail: 7672 Cottonwood Lane, Dexter MI 48130. For more information contact: 734-426-5099.

REGIONAL BUSINESS OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION

The Rev. Cal Brand
1602 California Street
Columbus, IN 47201
(812) 372-3783 (x 224) Work
(812) 378-0572 home
ecr-rd@sbcglobal.net

Business Office:
H. Joan Lyke
7672 Cottonwood Lane
Dexter, MI. 48130
(734) 426-5099
hjoanlyke@yahoo.com

WEB MANAGER- Vacancy

The web site will not be updated on a regular basis. If you are interested or know of someone that may be interested in managing the web site, please contact Cal Brand and Elizabeth Price.

<http://www.ecracpe.org>

SUPERVISORY EDUCATION IN THE REGION

Associate Supervisors

Ruth Alpers
Frank Woggon

Supervisory Candidates

Jose Albovias
Don Chase
Bill Foster
Susan Harthon
Laurie Hearn
Vickie Johnson
Wayne McKenney
Jon Paulus
Yerachmiel Rabin
Joe Roberts
Mark Scheffers
Satoe Soga
Kurt Stutz
Jim Wright

OFFICERS OF THE REGION

D. Calvert Brand, Director
Elizabeth Price, Chair
Karl VanHarn, Chair Elect
Rhonda Gilligan-Gillespie, Accreditation
(Connie Bonner-10/01/07)
Carol Reynolds Green, Board of Reps
Frank Impicciche, Board of Reps
Bob Uken, Budget & Investment
Ann A. Letson, Certification Co-Chair
[National]
Beth Newton Watson-Certification Co-Chair
[Regional]
Martha Amann, Clinical Members Co-Chair
Stan Mullin, Clinical Members Co-Chair
Lin Barnett, Nominations
Carl Buxo, Professional Ethics
Victoria Johnson, REM Task Force
David Koch, Secretary
Joe Viti, Standards