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Don Mrdjenovich
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CCWS eJournal:
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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Authors Committee

The first issue of *E-Journal of the College of Certified Wound Specialists* has been published at www.ejournalccws.com.

The following presentations were accepted for publication:

“The Role of Hylauronic Acid in the Prevention of Keloid Scarring”, an original research article by Andrea Hoffmann, PhD; Jessica L. Hoing, MS; Richard Simman, MD, CWS, FCCWS

“A Case Presentation of Gas Gangrene,” by Simon Young, DPM; Sharon Barlizo, DPM; Adrienne Scherenzel, DPM

“Pain Pathways and Chronic Wounds,” by Donald Mrdjenovich, DPM, CWS, FCCWS; Steve Abraham, DPM, CWS, FCCWS

“Pressure Ulcers: A Physical Therapy Perspective,” by Heather Hettrick, PT, PhD, CWS, MLT, FCCWS

We are proud and excited to announce that Harold Brem, MD, CCWS, of Columbia University Wound Healing Center, is submitting an article on “The Importance of Evidence Based Medicine in

Committee Reports continue on page 4.



MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRPERSON

It is with great pleasure that I take this opportunity to address the Fellows of the College of Certified Wound Specialists for the first time as Chair of the College. I welcome this new position with great honor, enthusiasm and hope for the future growth and development of the College. Initially, I would like to congratulate Dr. Chuck Gokoo for a very productive tenure as Chair of the College. Dr. Gokoo made excellent strides toward the development of the College. Since the founding of the College in January of 2004, several hurdles have been encountered. Among these hurdles were the development of the Board of Directors, transitioning to a new management firm, recruiting Fellows and securing corporate sponsorship. However, the largest being identifying who and what the College means to the Fellow. Dr. Gokoo has led the way promoting a stronger foothold toward meeting our goals. He carried us not only over but also through the many hurdles that any new organization

imminently faces. His contributions were limitless and are greatly appreciated.

The College held its first membership meeting and reception during the Clinical Symposium in Orlando, Florida on September 29, 2006. Thanks to sponsorship by National Rehab, the reception afforded excellent exposure and opportunity to meet and greet new and potential Fellows of the College. Discussion during the membership meeting included the CCWS Goals and Objectives for 2007 as well as highlighting membership services both present and future.

The College is working to open doors for the membership. The Fellows of the College are the ‘key’ to our future growth and existence. Currently the College is in year 2 and 3 of its original business plan. Among the most crucial goals, we are determined to increase membership. In order to accomplish this we must promote and educate the Diplomates of the AAWM as to why it is important to join the College. Thus,
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MESSAGE FROM OUR
CHAIRPERSON, *cont.*

resulting in the recruitment of Fellows to maintain membership and/or join the College. We must also make an impact on the current Fellows to gain strength.

Secondly, we will continue to strive to add substantial credibility to the CWS credential. Employing the College mission to elevate the standards of wound care we intend to accomplish this in two ways. One, encourage health care professionals in wound care to become certified by an accredited organization (i.e. AAWM/WOCN) and two, develop a strong Providers Relations Committee; with the purpose to promote the CWS in their places of employment and make insurance carriers and other payers aware of the impact a CWS can have on the economic and healing outcomes through advanced wound care.

Finally, we maintain our goal to establish bridges between other national and international wound associations and groups. This will enable a fostering of ideas and common goals to strengthen the wound management community.

These goals are attainable. The College must continue to develop its identity. This once again is dependent on strong membership and involvement.

The College now offers the following membership services. Several more are currently being developed and will enhance ones membership

in the College. Look for the first edition of the *E-journal of the College of Certified Wound Specialists* to be published shortly. This will provide excellent opportunity for education on wound topics as well as provide Fellows the opportunity to contribute their own PowerPoint presentation or original article. The Education Committee has established criteria and an application process for wound conferences or seminars to become designated as a course acceptable for preparation for the CWS exam.

There are several committees that are working within the Board of Directors, and always welcome Fellows who would like to participate. These include the Education, Exhibit, Industry, Marketing, Membership, Providers Relations, Political Action, Research and Author's Committees.

In conclusion, with any new organization one must crawl before one can walk. This is only accomplished by strong membership. Often the questions are posed as to why one should consider joining the College, or why pay yet another fee? One must realize that being a non-profit organization, consisting of a dedicated Board of Directors, Fellows, and Committee members who volunteer their time, efforts and resources, the only compensation is the satisfaction gained knowing that our goal of developing the College and strengthening the CWS credential will finally come to fruition. There truly is strength in numbers. Joining the efforts

of the College can make an enormous difference. I would strongly urge each Fellow to recruit one other CWS to join the College. This alone would double our membership. Those who remain loyal to our mission will be rewarded in seeing our advances made. Help the College help you! It is my hope that the Fellows will soon be running with the flag of the CCWS.

Donald E. Mrdjenovich, DPM,
FCCWS
*Chair of the College of
Certified Wound Specialists*



We
Want
YOU!

The CCWS is currently seeking members to serve on the following CCWS committees:

Political Action Committee
Education Committee
Provider Relations Committee
Industry Committee
Authors Committee

If you are interested, please contact John Margeson or Chris Murphy at CCWS Headquarters.

Hello, everybody. It's difficult to let go of your child when the time comes. These are the same feeling I have as I step down as Chair of The College. I've been in this position for a year and a half now, and it has been difficult, fun and most importantly it has been a success. I never dreamed The College would grow this large or complete goals that to some seemed unobtainable.

From the day I was named as Chair, I have felt it to be a matter of urgency that The College Board of Directors and Chairpersons

renew and greatly strengthen their approach to the Fellows and the direction of The College. I know that every member of the BOD and the Committees shares a commitment to providing programs worthy not only of our Fellows but to the wound care community at-large.

When I think back over my time in the leadership role, there are many memories. Among the fondest are the many occasions upon which I learned from all of you. It is a rare opportunity for any person to hear from individuals across a range of wound care

professions concerning not only the present, but the emergent work in their area of expertise and where wound care is headed.

It is with great pride that I hand over the reigns to my good friend Dr. Don Mrdjenovich. I leave with the complete confidence that Don will be successful in continuing what has been developed, the spirit of service and the energy that will be necessary to bring The College's collective effort to new levels of distinction and excellence that is in demand. I urge each Fellow to join together with purpose and

assist Don, the BOD and Committees in completing the large tasks before The College. I will always be grateful for the opportunity I have had to serve as your Chair and I will always treasure my time working with members of Board of Directors and most importantly the Fellows.

Thank you,



Charles F. Gokoo,
MD, CWS, FCCWS
Past Chair
American Medical
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paceguy@earthlink.net

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• APPLY TO ATTEND

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For additional details, please visit www.ColumbiaWoundHealing.org
or contact the program coordinator at cg2238@columbia.edu / 201.346.7001.

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Wound Care". His work and contribution to the advancement in wound care has been extraordinary.

The Authors Committee welcomes submissions of articles and power point presentations for publication in the *E-Journal of the College of Certified Wound Specialists*. Please see the journal website for submission protocols. Send your submissions to ejournalccws@aol.com.

To insure the success of this site the Authors Committee needs members! We look forward to receiving offers to assist in the editorial process and to help in the development of this professional journal. Please contact us at ejournalccws@aol.com.



Steve Abraham,
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*Chair, Research
Committee*
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Education Committee

One thing that has not been lacking in the Examination Committee area in the past several months is work. Diplomates have been hard at work on several initiatives including the editing and approval of test items for the exam data bank, finalizing the task analysis for the Certified Wound Care Associate (CWCA) exam, and analyzing the results of the latest CWS® examination which was taken by a record 493 applicants. As has been the trend in the past, exam scores were highly correlated with level of education and years of experience in wound care which has further substantiated the action of the board to establish an examination targeted more to individuals with less than bachelor's level preparation.

An item writer workshop is being conducted in early December which will serve to develop a large number of test questions for the new CWCA examination. As always, the Academy encourages questions to be submitted from all interested parties. No particular expertise is required since the items go through a complete scrubbing and rewrite before entering the approved item data bank. In early 2007, the CWCA subcommittee will meet to begin the approval process with plans to have the first Associate examination ready by the summer.

In January of 2007, a subcommittee will convene at the Professional Testing Corporation headquarters in New York City to approve the next two versions of the CWS® examination that will be administered in 2007. This group, like all of our exam groups, is multidisci-

plinary and will involve a group of physicians, podiatrists, nurses, and physical therapists.



Luther C. Kloth,
MS, PT, CWCA, FAPTA,
FCCWS
*Chair, Education
Committee*

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**The Authors Committee
welcomes submissions of articles
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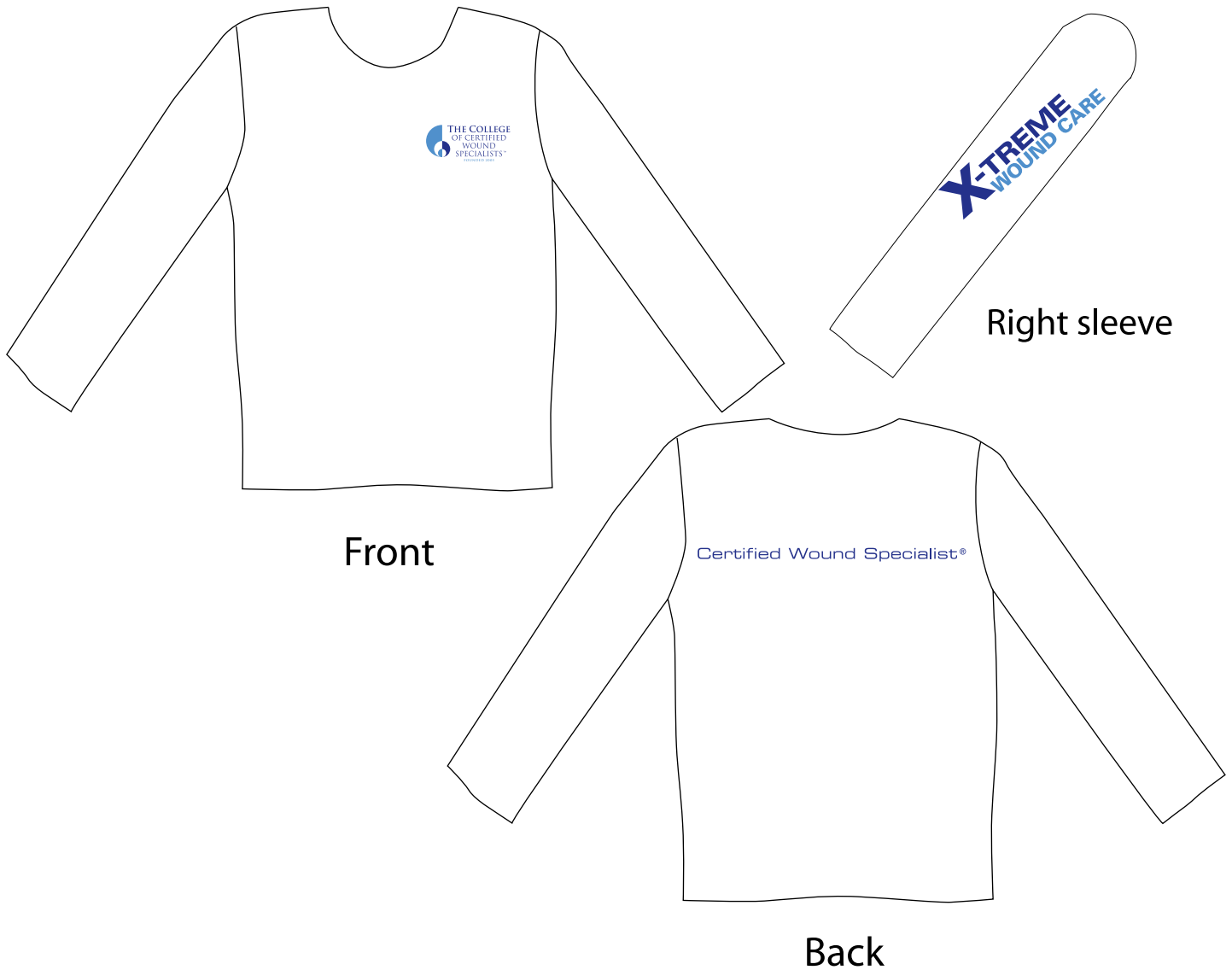
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