

Mission: To protect the public by promoting the competent and ethical practice of art therapy

A Message from the ATCB President...

As you are aware, in 2008 the Art Therapy Credentials Board, Inc. celebrated its 15th anniversary. It has been 15 years of growth focused on efforts that fulfill our mission, “to protect the public through the competent and ethical practice of art therapy” and that promote the profession by setting standards of excellence. The ATCB Board of Directors is proud of its accomplishments and enthusiastic about its goals for the future.



Please join me in welcoming two new faces to the ATCB. Stephanie Wise was elected to the Board of Directors and will begin a two-year term of office on January 1, 2009. A profile of Stephanie appears on page 3. Also joining the ATCB is Rita Maloy. In December Rita came on board to fill our Executive Director position. She is replacing Kristi McCaskill who is taking on other responsibilities within the NBCC/CCE family.

Learn more about Rita, her experience and the talents she brings to our organization, in the profile appearing on page 5. Also, please join me in congratulating Deborah Good, ATCB Director, who was elected to her third term.

At our Fall Board of Directors Meeting, Dr. Tom Clawson CEO of the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC) and the Center for Counseling Education (CCE), provided a lively and comprehensive look at international credentialing. NBCC-I (the “I” standing for International) has been successful in partnering with foreign entities to develop credentialing programs. ATCB will begin steps, using the NBCC-I model, to further our mission internationally.

It was a pleasure to be able to greet those of you who stopped by the ATCB booth at the AATA conference in Cleveland. ATR-BC’s visiting the booth were encouraged to take a CEC tracking folder (new in 2008). The folder is a handy reference tool developed to assist in the recertification process. Printed on the folder are step-by-step instructions and a detailed description of the recertification requirements, a grid for tracking CEC’s, and the folder is designed to hold the certificates of attendance/completion in the event that you are audited and need to submit those along in your recertification packet. CEC’s in a variety of learning formats (face-to-face, internet, conference-based, home study, etc.) are accepted for recertification as long as the continuing education activity is offered by an approved provider. To request a folder or if you have any questions about whether a specific CEC program will be accepted, please do not hesitate to contact our national office.

During a December teleconference, the Board approved the 2009-2011 Strategic Plan. The new plan, that can be viewed on our Web site (www.atcb.org), outlines our short and long term objectives. A priority of the plan is to seek accreditation of our credentialing program (the ATR-BC) by the National Commission on Certifying Agencies (NCCA). Although not identical, NCCA is to certification organizations what JCAHO is to hospitals. We have established an ad hoc committee to research the accreditation process and create a timeline for completion of our application. Bill More’s article in this issue of the ATCB Review will provide more information about why accreditation is both desired and appropriate for ATCB at this time.

Finally, for those of you awaiting further word on the roll out of the Art Therapy Certified Supervisor (ATCS), please note that a contract for services has been finalized with CCE and we are investigating appropriate acronyms with the United States Trademark Office – all of this took more time that had been anticipated. Please look for the roll-out of this new credential in 2009!

Respectfully,

Terry Towne, ATR-BC

~ FEATURES ~

Message from the ATCB President	1
NCCA Accreditation for BC Process	2
ATCB-AATA MOU Reauthorized	2
ATCB Credential Holder Profile	3
Anita Mester: In Memoriam	3
New ATRs and ATR-BCs	4
Seeking ATR Involvement	4
Recertification Tips	5
New Executive Director Announced	6
Board of Directors	7
Announcements	7

ATCB to Seek NCCA Accreditation of the BC Process

Bill More, ATR-BC
ATCB Secretary

The Board of Directors of the ATCB decided in 2008 to seek approval of its Board Certification process from the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA). The NCCA, an accrediting organization affiliated with the National Organization for Competency Assurance (NOCA), accredits certification programs for a wide variety of professions and sets the industry standards for the competency of professional certification. In order to accredit a certification program's processes, NCCA has set standards for: a certification's purpose; the structure and governance of the certifying organization; the information about the certification that is available to applicants, certificants, and the public; and recertification as well as certifying the assessment instrument itself – in ATCB's case this would be the Art Therapy Credentials Board Exam (ATCBE).

The mission of NCCA is to help insure the health, welfare, and safety of the public through the accreditation of certification programs/organizations which demonstrate compliance, and to serve as a resource for quality certification. The purpose of NCCA accreditation is to help the public and stakeholders (including employers and licensing boards) identify certification programs that will serve their need for competency assurance. In addition, NOCA provides up-to-date technical and educational information about certification practices

What are the benefits of accrediting the ATCB's certification process? The major benefit is that the public and stakeholders will be assured that the BC has been deemed to meet the competency assurance needs of the profession and of agencies offering art therapy services by an independent organization whose purpose is to promote competency. In other words, accreditation will mean that although the ATCB controls the content of the BC exam, it, and the certification process meets national standards for setting eligibility requirements for access to certification, an appropriate process for creating a psychometrically valid exam, and a process to assure the continued competency of its certificants.

The ATCB is at the beginning of the process. In October, an Ad Hoc Committee was established to review the accreditation standards and the application requirements. The committee will be reporting to the Board at the Spring 2009 Board meeting and make recommendation for a timeline for preparing and completing the application process.

Reauthorization of MOU between ATCB-AATA

ATCB and AATA reauthorized the Memo of Understanding between the two organizations. Originally signed in 2005, this MOU reaffirms the organizations' shared commitment to the profession.

This commitment will manifest in policies to ensure on-going communication on critical matters that affect the profession as a whole, such as governmental affairs, standards of practice, and a consistent message about the function and value of art therapy credentials to licensing and occupational regulations.

Both organizations affirm that a degree of separation between the member organization and the credentialing body is necessary, but also that a close partnership with mutual strategic agendas is vital to ensure the profession's survival. ATCB and AATA will continue to explore ways to improve collaboration while fulfilling their respective missions and fiduciary responsibilities.

Along with signing the reauthorized MOU, AATA President Peg Dunn-



Snow presented ATCB President Terry Towne with a commemorative plaque in recognition of ATCB's fifteen years of service to the art therapy profession.

**Congratulations to
Debbie Good (re-elected) and Stephanie Wise (newly elected)
ATCB Directors**

ATCB Credential Holder Profile: Stephanie Wise, MA, ATR-BC, LCAT

As I read over various previous Credential Holder Profiles, I am struck by the variety of journeys colleagues have taken to becoming art therapists and the varying meanings credentialing holds for each person. Certain experiences and notions appear to recur which are almost ubiquitous. Others tend to distinguish us each in diverse ways that enrich both our profession and our selves. And so, in reviewing what others have shared with us, I find myself finding myself.



years was simultaneously inspiring and exhausting. As we know, it is quite a different experience to make art for a living than solely making art for the love of being creative.

As fate would have it, at about the same time I was starting to experience a ‘painter’s block,’ circumstances in my life led me to take a mighty change in course from being a professional artist to embarking on an inward journey of self-discovery and healing. I remember standing in Union Square in New York City, surrounded by all the colors of the open street market and thinking, “If only there were a way to combine my two passions - art and therapy!” Needless to say, this wish led me to discover that which already existed. I attended the Graduate Art Therapy Program at New York University.

For as far back as I can remember I believe my life has been inspired by a ‘flight into art.’ Growing up in Ohio in the 1950’s and 1960’s, I intuitively understood that being creative in almost any form tapped into the most resilient and confident parts of myself. Making art was nourishing, exciting, fantasy filled and an activity that made me feel very special because I believed I was pretty good at it. As many of you no doubt also experienced, being lost for hours on an art project was like the rabbit saying, “Please don’t throw me into the briar patch!” Making art was ‘home.’

My learning experience at NYU provided me a top education and an inspiring faculty who remain colleagues and friends today. The high standards of these credentialed professionals assured me that I was learning from people who not only had proven experience in the field, but who took their responsibilities to protect the public very seriously. Their dedication as members of this profession was continually reflected in every aspect of our time together.

By the time I entered the BFA Program at The Cooper Union in New York City in the early 1970’s, I viewed myself quite completely as an artist. Being surrounded by working artists and living the life as a professional artist for the ensuing 20

years was simultaneously inspiring and exhausting. As we know, it is quite a different experience to make art for a living than solely making art for the love of being creative.

disaster trauma survivors from Europe, Thailand and the Middle East. These credential standards have opened up a world of work possibilities within our own country as well when disasters such as Katrina have occurred. Credentialed mental health providers in other fields understand and appreciate the education and experience which our profession demands and I have the knowledge and conviction that my training truly does serve in the public interest.

Being an art therapist remains inseparable from my personal and professional identity. It is in many ways a calling, not just a job, and as such fills me with the hope and inspiration I recall from childhood. I am home.

In Memoriam



It is with tremendous sadness that we share the news that our colleague Anita Mester passed away in

October 2008. Anita served the art therapy profession tirelessly as a practitioner, educator, and advocate on the local and national level. Anita was appointed to the Art Therapy Credentials Board in 2001 and served as ATCB’s President in 2004-2005. Anita’s Story of Hope was featured in the Spring 2008 issue of the ATCB Review. Anita will be remembered for her many contributions to the profession, her gentle manner, and her wonderful sense of humor.

New ATRs

August 1, 2008 - November 30, 2008

Geoffrey Allen	Margaret Foit	Erika Loseman	Robin Reiss	Allison Stroh
Jennifer Alward	Lisa Foster	Laura Luongo	Natasha Reitz	Susan Sweet
Vanessa Andrews	Kimberly Frazee	Catherine MacDonald	Jennifer Reynolds	Sara Taussik
Suzanne Arendt	Leah Friedman Spohn	Nicole Martin	Jaime Robbins	Maiko Toyoda
Kathleen Barron	Jennifer Gaspard	Elizabeth Mearkle	Kristen Rodriguez	Karen Vaden
Mimi Beaulieu	Natalia Gomez	Yurika Miller	Karina Schwarz	Rachel VandeRiet
Jeannie Beaumont	Adrian Hall	Elieen Misluk	Diana Shabtai	Kristen Vesbach
Krista Bebezias	Shannon Hallock	Karen Montgomery	Judith Sharp	Anne Warren
Deborah Berk	Mark Harren	Erin Mooney	Andrea Shirley	LuAnn Whale
Melanie Beuth	Heather Herring	Glenda Moore	Rachel Sikorski	Sara Windrem
Tina Boscarino	Cathy Hoffman- Manthey	Liza Mordkovich	Casey St. Louis	Jessica Woolhiser
Terre Bridgham	Susan Houck	Keith Murphey	Heather Stemas	
Erin Brindle	Jeanette Huseman	Takeo Nagasaka		
Denise Brown	Monika Isip	Patricia Neff		
Hana Burnett	Beata Jankiewicz	Emily Nolan		
Sara Campanella	Carol Johnson	Rory O'Neill		
Samantha Cohen	Catherine King	Yuko Otomo		
Jessica Detlefsen	Kathryn Kirby	Sara Patten	Reshma Shamdasani	Chris Randolph
Ann-Marie Edmonds	Nina Knight	Majica Phillips	Ramona Crofoot	Linnea Morris
Margaret Evans	Marisa Lawrence	Eleanor Pigman	Madeleine Stevens	Courtney McCullough
Christa Faulkner	Isabel Lenssen	Carissa Pintar	Kate Dewey	Laura Lansrud-Lopez
Dorian Fedkiw	Colleen Lewis	Lauren Rega	Barbara (Basia) Mosinski	Courtney Puciata
Jessica Feury		Mary Kate Reisel		

New ATR-BCs

August 1, 2008 - November 30, 2008

Reshma Shamdasani	Chris Randolph
Ramona Crofoot	Linnea Morris
Madeleine Stevens	Courtney McCullough
Kate Dewey	Laura Lansrud-Lopez
Barbara (Basia) Mosinski	Courtney Puciata

Seeking ATR-BC Involvement

ATCB is seeking energetic, talented credential holders ready to take their professional commitment to the next level. ATCB protects the public and promotes excellence in our profession. If you would like to become more involved through service on one of our committees, please send a letter of interest and your résumé to the National Office.

2010 will be an ATCB election year. We are seeking ATR-BCs who are dedicated to the protection of the public and promoting the competent and ethical practice of art therapy. More information will be made available as we approach nominations time. Meanwhile, if you or someone you know is a dedicated leader, please consider taking the next step toward a nomination.

Stay in the ATCB Loop

Are you feeling out of touch or disconnected from the ATCB? Have you moved recently or do you have a new internet provider? Help us keep you in the loop by making sure that the ATCB office has your current contact information – address, phone, and e-mail.

ATR-BCs Give Yourselves a Gift - Avoid Stress at Recertification Time

If you've been board certified for more than five years, you've survived at least one recertification process. We know from phone calls and e-mails coming into the National Office that recertification, though necessary and professionally responsible, can be stressful. In light of this, we have several tools available to help with tracking the required continuing education credit (CEC) hours. Our best advice is this: Save yourself a headache by using the resources available as a way to keep yourself on track.

What should be in your recertification toolbox?

The most important item is the three-page Recertification Standards document. It's your basic "everything you need to know" tool, explaining why we have a recertification process, the steps in the process, the eligible content areas and activity formats, acceptable documentation, and how to make sure you're ready in case your continuing education file is selected for audit. We recommend that everyone refer to the Recertification Standards as they plan continuing activities for their 5-year certification cycle.

The next best items in the toolbox are Continuing Education Credits (CEC) Tracking Forms. It will take a few of these to document the 100 CEC hours required over 5 years. By taking just a moment after each continuing education activity to list the date, type of activity, presenter name(s), name of the approved provider, content area, and number of CECs earned, you can save yourself from the stress of trying to remember all the activities and where you put the documents. If you're keeping the forms in a file folder with the Recertification Standards, and attaching the acceptable documentation (as detailed in the Standards) as you go, life will be a breeze if the "You've Been Selected for Audit" notification is in your mailbox.

And speaking of file folders, ATCB recently developed a special all-in-one tool for keeping up with your recertification documents. The ATCB Continuing Education File is a file folder with the recertification requirements, process, and tracking form printed right on it. These were introduced at our booth at the 2008 AATA conference. We will be including the file folder with all new and renewing ATR-BC certificates.

Your expiration date is on your certificate. Providing a reminder of the date by which you are required to recertify is a lesser perk of displaying it in a prominent location. As long as we have an up-to-date address, the National Office will remind you that recertification time is approaching. The consequences of failure to recertify are serious and include re-taking the ATCBE.

The best thing about these tools is they're easy to obtain and if used properly, they work. You can find them, along with other helpful information at our Web site. Just visit http://www.atcb.org/maintaining_the_atr/. We wish you all a Happy New Year and may your next recertification process be stress-free.

New Executive Director of ATCB Announced

Rita Maloy has transitioned into the Executive Director position formerly held by Kristi McCaskill at the ATCB National Office.

Rita joined the National Board for Certified Counselors in 1997, where she was Certification Administrator for six



years before moving into project management for the Center for Credentialing and Education (CCE). Recent activities include serving as Executive Director to the American Association of State Counseling Boards (AASCB), organizing several credential development efforts, and coordinating NBCC's semi-annual state licensure boards meeting.

Rita earned a Master's in Public Affairs at The University of North Carolina - Greensboro (UNCG). Prior to joining NBCC and Affiliates staff, Rita coordinated services for students with disabilities at UNCG.

As part of the team serving the ATCB National Office, Rita is looking forward to working more closely with the Board of Directors and committee members on behalf of the art therapy profession.

ATCB Board of Directors and Committees 2009-2010

PRESIDENT

Terry Towne, ATR-BC
Palm Springs, CA

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Deborah Good, Ph.D., ATR-BC
Albuquerque, NM

SECRETARY

Bill More, ATR-BC
Woodbridge, CT

TREASURER

David E. Gussak, Ph.D, ATR-BC
Tallahassee, FL

DIRECTOR

Donna J. Betts, Ph.D., ATR-BC
Tallahassee, FL

DIRECTOR

Nina Denninger, ATR-BC
Greensburg, PA

DIRECTOR

Penelope Orr, Ph.D., ATR-BC
Fairview, PA

DIRECTOR

Stephanie Wise, ATR-BC
Wyoming, PA

PUBLIC MEMBER

David Heinen
Raleigh, NC

EX-OFFICIO MEMBER

Peg Dunn-Snow, Ph.D., ATR-BC
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE CHAIR

Libby Schmanke, ATR-BC
Oskaloosa, KS

REGISTRATION STANDARDS CHAIR

Dana Elmendorf, ATR-BC
Monroeville, PA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Rita Maloy
Greensboro, NC



2008 ATCB Board of Directors. Top row--Donna Betts and Bill More; second row --Debbie Good, Penny Orr, Terry Towne, Nina Denninger, David Heinen; third row--Kristi McCaskill (Executive Director), Dave Gussak, and Gayle Sutch. Peg Dunn-Snow was not present.



Tom Clawson and Terry Towne at ATCB's Fall board meeting.

UPCOMING EXAMINATION DATES

<i>CITY</i>	<i>DATE</i>
Hartford, CT	November 21, 2009
Detroit, MI	November 21, 2009
Dallas, TX	November 21, 2009
Atlanta GA	November 21, 2009
Portland, OR	November 21, 2009

Announcements

Effective July 1, 2009, a \$25 fee will be required of credential holders applying for TEMPORARY INACTIVE STATUS. If you need to consider applying for temporary inactive status, contact the ATCB National Office to obtain details about the process.

The deadline for Option C applicants is September 1, 2010. Applications and documentation postmarked after this date will not be accepted.

The following items have recently been added to the ATCB Web site:

- a study guide for the ATCB examination
- ATCB's 2009-2010 Strategic Plan
- a PowerPoint on the ATCB Credentialing Process