

ACCREDITING AGENCY EVALUATION BRANCH  
OFFICE OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Recommendation Page

1. Agency: Commission on Accreditation, Council on Naturopathic Medical Education.
2. Date of Advisory Committee Meeting: March 12-13, 1990
3. Petition Scope and Nature: Renewal of recognition for the accreditation of educational programs leading to the M.D. or N.M.D. degree and for the preaccreditation category of Recognized Candidate for Accreditation.
4. Issues or Problems:

Partial Compliance

502.17(b) -- Verifies that degree requirements are satisfied and documented and that institutions confer degrees only on students demonstrating educational achievement.

The agency meets part of this criterion but has not demonstrated that it verifies that satisfaction of degree requirements is documented and that degrees are conferred only on students demonstrating educational achievement.

602.17(e) -- Determines the extent to which institutions broadly and accurately publicize, particularly to prospective students, the objectives, assessment measures, information obtained, and ability to benefit procedures.

The agency meets the part of this criterion concerning objectives; it has adopted a standard concerning the other items of the criterion but needs to provide documentation of implementation of the standard, when such documentation is available.

602.13(b)(c)(d) -- Reviews elements of institutional integrity as demonstrated by adequacy and accuracy of disclosures as to: (b) the institution's educational effectiveness, (c) employment of recent alumni, (d) data supporting any quantitative claims made by the institution with respect to items above.

The agency has recently adopted a standard addressing the requirements of these subsections. However, the standard has not yet been implemented, so there is no documentation of how the Commission applies it.

#### Need Strengthening

602.15(b) -- Has sufficient competent and knowledgeable personnel responsible for on-site evaluation and policy and decision-making.

The agency should describe more specifically its requirements for site visitors and the composition of site visit teams and ensure that they are adequately trained in the criteria and procedures of CNME.

602.16(a) (2) (i) and (ii) -- Provides a written report concerning the strengths and weaknesses of the institution, including areas needing improvement, and the institution's performance respecting the assessment of student achievement.

The agency's site visit reports already contain elements of these criteria. However, it should provide better instructions on the format and contents of site visit reports to ensure consistency. While CNME has adopted a requirement that the site report comment on assessment of student achievement, this new requirement is not yet documented.

602.16(c) -- Bases its decisions upon its published criteria. . . .

The agency appears to meet this criterion; however, the previous concern about lack of uniformity in site visit reports raises a question about whether such reports consistently contain adequate information about an institution's performance relative to the standards for accreditation. Also, the checklists for site visitors need to be updated and possibly expanded.

602.16(g) -- Controls against conflict of interest and against inconsistent applications of criteria and standards.

The agency's provisions against conflict of interest should be published and it should ensure consistent application of standards through team training and standardization of procedures.

602.16(i) -- Maintains a systematic program of assessment of validity and reliability of standards, criteria and procedures.

The agency has outlined a systematic plan for assessing the validity of its criteria and standards. It will propose a plan for assessing reliability later, although it is now undertaking some efforts in this area. Evidence of implementation of these plans is needed.

602.17(c) -- Determines that institutions document educational achievement in verifiable and consistent ways.

The agency has recently adopted standards and self-study requirements that address this criterion. However, it still should consider adopting more specific standards requiring documentation of the educational achievements of students.

602.17(f) - Determines that institutions systematically apply information obtained through assessment measures to foster enhanced student achievement.

The agency has adopted a self-study requirement concerning the use of assessment data and also has shown that institutions have been using such information in the past to foster student achievement. However, the standards themselves are weak in this area and should be strengthened.

5. AAE Staff Recommendation: Renew recognition for two years for the accreditation of educational programs leading to the N.D. or D.M.D. degree and for the preaccreditation category of Recognized Candidate for Accreditation. Request a report in one year on progress in meeting or strengthening compliance with the criteria cited above.

Accrediting Agency Evaluation Staff Analysis of Petition  
for Renewal of Recognition of the  
Commission on Accreditation of the  
Council on Naturopathic Medical Education

BACKGROUND

The Commission on Accreditation of the Council on Naturopathic Medical Education (Council, CNME) was initially listed as a nationally recognized accrediting agency in September 1987 for one year for the accreditation of educational programs leading to the N.D. or N.M.D. degree and for the preaccreditation category of Recognized Candidate for Accreditation. The Council first sought recognition in 1979 but requested that its petition be postponed from review at the June 1979 meeting of the Advisory Committee until it could correct deficiencies identified in the staff analysis of the petition. The Council then became inactive for several years. When the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges' Commission on Colleges changed its eligibility policies to eliminate single purpose institutions, such as naturopathic colleges, from access to its accreditation program, the CNME was reactivated and in May 1986 submitted a new petition for recognition by the Secretary. The Council updated this petition in February 1987. During the 1987 review of the petition, an AAZB staff member toured the facilities of John Bastyr College of Naturopathic Medicine (which is accredited by the CNME) and observed a meeting of the Council. The Council's petition for initial recognition was reviewed at the May 1987 meeting of the National Advisory Committee. No third parties appeared in opposition to the petition.

Recognition was granted by the Secretary on September 28, 1987, for a period of one year. In his recognition letter, the Secretary informed the Council that its petition for renewal of recognition should demonstrate compliance with six of the 1974 Criteria for Recognition and demonstrate improvement in compliance with nine others. The Secretary stated that "based upon the outcome of our evaluation of the Council's renewal petition, the Council may be considered for renewal of recognition for a period of time extending up to the remainder of a full four-year recognition period dated from initial recognition."

The petition for renewal of recognition was reviewed at the December 1983 meeting of the National Advisory Committee under the 1974 Criteria for Recognition of Nationally Recognized Accrediting Agencies. At that meeting a third party representing the American Naturopathic Medical Association and the Puerto Rico Naturopathic Medical Association appeared in

opposition to the petition. The Advisory Committee recommended that recognition be continued for one year, in part because of the Committee's desire to review the agency under the revised 1988 Criteria for Recognition as early as possible.

The current petition was submitted in June 1989. The AAE staff has not had an opportunity to observe an onsite visit conducted by the agency. An AAE staff member did attend a meeting of the Council in November 1989. The report of that meeting is attached to this analysis. At AAE's request the Council submitted an addendum to its petition on November 23, 1989.

As additional background for this review, the definition of naturopathic medicine should be noted. The Council defines naturopathic medicine using the definition in the U.S. Department of Labor's Dictionary of Occupational Titles, 4th Edition (1977) as follows:

Naturopathic Physician -- Diagnoses, treats and cares for patients, using a system of practice that bases its treatment of physiological functions and abnormal conditions on natural laws governing the human body, utilizes physiological, psychological and mechanical methods, such as air, water, heat, light, earth, phototherapy (treatment by use of plants), food and herb therapy, psychotherapy, electrotherapy, physiotherapy, minor and orificial surgery, mechanotherapy, naturopathic corrections and manipulation, and natural methods or modalities, together with natural medicines, natural processed foods, and herbs and nature's remedies. Excludes major surgery, therapeutic use of x-ray and radium and use of drugs, except those assimilable substances containing elements or compounds which are components of bodily tissues and are physiologically compatible to body process for maintenance of life.

#### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The CNME has greatly strengthened its procedures and standards since it was initially recognized in 1987. It has developed a good accreditation manual and generally good procedures. The dedication of its personnel to the success of the accreditation program is commendable. It should be noted that the CNME has prepared three petitions for recognition or renewal of recognition in the past several years -- one in 1986-87, one in 1988 and another one in 1989. The agency had less than one year from the time of its last review in December 1988 to submit a new petition for renewal of recognition addressing the 1988 Criteria for Recognition. Consequently, a number of the standards and procedures that were adopted to meet the 1988 Criteria have not yet been implemented and are not fully documented in the current petition.

Accordingly, AAE finds that the CNME does not fully meet or needs to strengthen its compliance with the following criteria:

Partial Compliance

602.17 (b) -- Verifies that degree requirements are satisfied and documented and that institutions confer degrees only on students demonstrating educational achievement.

The agency meets part of this criterion but has not demonstrated that it verifies that satisfaction of degree requirements is documented and that degrees are conferred only on students demonstrating educational achievement.

602.17 (e) -- Determines the extent to which institutions broadly and accurately publicize, particularly to prospective students, the objectives, assessment measures, information obtained, and ability to benefit procedures.

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602.18 (b) (c) (d) -- Reviews elements of institutional integrity as demonstrated by adequacy and accuracy of disclosures as to: (b) the institution's educational effectiveness, (c) employment of recent alumni, (d) data supporting and qualitative claims made by the institution with respect to items above.

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#### STAFF ANALYSIS

An accrediting agency that desires to be recognized by the Secretary must meet each of the following recognition criteria, unless it can demonstrate to the Secretary's satisfaction why one or more criteria should not be applied (34 CFR 602.10-602.19):

#### 602.11 Experience.

An accrediting agency must demonstrate sufficient experience with respect to both --

- (a) The geographical scope of activity for which it seeks recognition; and

The Council was established in 1978 as a national organization to accredit colleges of naturopathic medicine in the United States. It conducted its first site visits and granted Correspondent status in 1980. Presently two colleges hold status with CIME, one in Oregon and one in Washington. The agency has examined both of these institutions more than once. The petition indicates that the Council has received applications from institutions in Arizona, California, Missouri, Oregon and Washington.

The Council meets this subsection minimally at best.

**602.11(b) The specific degrees, certificates, and programs which would be covered by its recognized accreditation and preaccreditation activities.**

The Council accredits educational programs leading to the N.D. (Doctor of Naturopathy) or N.M.D. (Doctor of Naturopathic Medicine) degree within multi-purpose institutions. It also accredits single-purpose naturopathic medical colleges. As noted above two colleges currently hold status with the Council. Both have been reviewed at least two or more times by the Council. (The petition Supplement states that the CNME has conducted five full site visits since its reactivation in 1985.) The Council thus appears to have had sufficient experience in evaluating naturopathic educational programs within its scope.

Documentation:

Petition narrative.

**602.12 Scope of activity.**

The Secretary determines whether an accrediting agency --

- (a) (1) Is national in the scope of its operations; or
- (2) Includes in its geographical scope of operation at least three States that are contiguous or that otherwise constitute a distinct geographic region, and defines its accrediting activity as the accreditation of entire institutions; and

The CNME was established as a "national organization" to accredit programs and institutions in the United States, as stated in its Articles and Bylaws. Foreign institutions are granted a status of "Communicating Membership", which is not accreditation. Although the CNME presently has only two accredited or preaccredited institutional members, it will accept applications from colleges nationwide and thus is national in its stated scope of operations. It includes among its members state associations and a national association of practitioners.

The agency meets this subsection.

Documentation:

Exhibits 3 and 4, Articles of Incorporation.

**602.12(b) Accredits types and academic levels of institutions or programs that must be accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the Secretary in order for those**

institutions or programs, or their students, to be eligible for participation in one or more Federal programs.

The Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges is the regional accrediting agency that covers the region in which both CNME schools are located. At one point the Northwest Association was willing to evaluate single-purpose institutions, and one of the CNME schools, Bastyr College, was granted candidacy status with NASC. During this period, the CNME became inactive, for it appeared that the naturopathic schools had access to a recognized agency (and consequently Federal funding). The Northwest Association later adopted a policy of accrediting freestanding single-purpose institutions only in conjunction with a specialized accrediting agency in that field. Consequently, for Bastyr College to move to accredited status with Northwest Association (and thereby retain its eligibility status), it had to broaden its offerings and work with the CNME as a nationally recognized specialized accrediting agency. The other CNME institution, National College of Naturopathic Medicine, currently does not have status with the Northwest Association, and therefore its eligibility for Federal funding depends entirely upon its Candidacy status with CNME.

The agency meets the requirements of this Subsection.

602.13 Clarity of purpose, scope, and operational information.

The Secretary determines whether an accrediting agency maintains, and makes publicly available, current written material clearly describing each of the following matters:

- (a) Its purposes and objectives.

The purposes and objectives of CNME are stated and publicly available in its Articles of Incorporation, as amended, and in the brochure of Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures.

The agency complies with this Subsection.

Documentation:

Exhibits 3 and 4, Articles of Incorporation.  
Exhibit 11, Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures,  
I-4.

**602.13 (b) The geographical area and the types and academic levels of educational institutions or programs covered by the agency's accrediting activity.**

The geographical area and the type and levels of programs and institutions accredited are described in the Articles of Incorporation, as amended, and in the Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures. According to the Bylaws, the Council is established "to evaluate and accredit colleges of naturopathic medicine nor naturopathic medical programs within multi-purpose institutions." The manual states that CNME provides "standards for naturopathic medical education to guide colleges which grant the Doctor of Naturopathic Medicine or Doctor of Naturopathy (N.D. or N.M.D.) degree."

This excerpt from the 1987 AAE staff analysis describes the CNME's scope and the areas for which it is recognized by the Secretary:

The N.D. and N.M.D are first professional degrees. The standards of the Council require that students have at least three years of college work prior to admission to the four-year degree program. While the Council evaluates the institutional characteristics and resources of applicant colleges, it does not evaluate for accreditation any program offered by these applicants except the one for the N.D. or N.M.D. degree. (The agency's standards contain requirements only for the N.D. or N.M.D. curriculum.) The agency, therefore, meets this criterion, but should continually exercise care in defining "naturopathic medical program" as the program of study for the N.D. or N.D.M. degree, and not confuse its meaning with separate programs covering certain aspects of naturopathic medicine such as nutrition.

Although CNME does state that it accredits institutions and programs, for the above reasons the Secretary recognizes the agency only for programs leading to the N.D. or N.D.M. degree.

The agency meets the requirements of this Subsection.

Documentation:

Exhibits 3 and 4, Articles of Incorporation.  
Exhibit 11, Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures  
I-4 - I-7.

**602.13 (c) The definition of each type of accreditation and preaccreditation status, including probationary status, if any, that the agency grants.**

The Council grants three statuses: Accredited, Recognized Candidate for Accreditation, and Communicating. As noted above, Communicating Status is a non-accredited category for foreign

institutions. Accredited status is defined in CIME documents. The Council may place an accredited institution on confidential probation or public probation, both of which are described in the Council's accreditation manual.

Recognized Candidate for Accreditation is a preaccreditation status granted to institutions that meet the General Eligibility Standards and have completed a minimum of one year of operation.

The agency meets the requirements of this Subsection.

Documentation:

Exhibit 11, Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures, pp. I-7, II-5, II-22.

**602.13(d) The criteria and procedures used by the agency for determining whether to grant, reaffirm, reinstate, deny, restrict, or revoke each type of accreditation and preaccreditation status that the agency grants.**

The CIME considers its Educational Standards to be the "criteria" cited in this criterion. These standards are published in the Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures manual. The manual also states the procedures for granting, denying, revoking, reaffirming, and reinstating accreditation and preaccreditation. Procedures for placing an institution on probation or for deferring a decision also are stated in the manual.

The agency meets the requirements of this Subsection.

Documentation:

Exhibit 11, Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures, pp. II-20-II-23, III-1-III-18.

**602.13(e) The standards to which an agency holds an educational institution or program for the purpose of making determinations respecting each of the criteria referred to in paragraph (d) of this section.**

The petition states that CIME interprets the "standards" referred to in this criterion as the level of performance at which the criteria (Educational Standards) must be met. The Commission has a statement concerning the degree to which an institution must meet the Eligibility Criteria and accreditation standards to be

accredited. Also, as the petition points out, the educational standards themselves contain expected levels of performance throughout. That is, some standards must be met at a particular level ("must be", "shall have"); other standards provide a range of acceptable compliance; and others are expressed as minimum levels to be met.

These standards are stated in the Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures manual.

The agency meets the requirements of this Subsection.

Documentation:

Exhibit 11, Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures, pp. II-3, III-1-III-18.

602.13(f) The procedures established by the agency for appeal of its denials or withdrawals of accreditation or preaccreditation status.

The "Appeals Policy and Procedures" is published in the Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures manual. Schools may appeal denial and withdrawal of candidacy and denial and withdrawal of accreditation status.

The agency meets the requirements of this Subsection.

Documentation:

Exhibit 11, Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures, pp. II-24-II-26.

602.13(g) The procedures followed by the agency for the timely review of complaints pertaining to institutional or program quality, as these relate to the agency's criteria, in a manner that is fair and equitable to the person making the complaint and to the institution or program.

The accreditation manual contains written "Procedures for Grievances Against Member Institutions." The procedures require that a complainant first attempt to resolve the complaint with the institution. The Commission will then consider the complaint if it relates to the educational standards and regulations. Time lines for reviewing complaints are stated in the procedures. The CIME President or his designate will review and make a recommendation on resolution of the complaint. However, if either party is not satisfied with the recommendation or its implementation, then it may be brought to the full Council for a review and decision.

The revised procedures appear to meet the requirements of this subsection. The petition Addendum includes the 1989 manual, which contains the revised procedures.

Documentation:

Exhibit 17 L-8, Minutes of CNME meeting.  
Exhibit 11, Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures,  
p. II-34.  
Petition Addendum, ESAP, p. II-33.

**602.13(h) The current accreditation or preaccreditation status publicly conferred on each educational institution or program within the agency's scope of operation and the date of the next currently scheduled review or reconsideration of accreditation of each of those institutions or programs.**

Information about the status and next review date of a program is "available on request". The petition includes a listing dated May 25, 1989, of the names of the CNME colleges, their status with the Commission, and the dates of next review. The petition reports that news of Commission and Council actions is published regularly in the American Association of Naturopathic Physicians Newsletter. Also, a brochure with this information "has been in preparation."

The agency meets the requirements of this Subsection.

Documentation:

Exhibit 28, Draft brochure.  
Exhibit 29, List of institutions holding CNME status.

**602.13(i) The names and relevant employment and organizational affiliations of the members of the agency's policy and decision-making bodies responsible for the agency's accrediting activities, and the names of the agency's principal administrative staff.**

The Council makes available to the public a list of the Council and Commission members, which includes relevant employment and organizational affiliations. The 1989 edition of the accreditation manual contains the statement that "the names, relevant employment and organizational affiliations of Council members are available from the executive director." The name and address of the Executive Director of the CNME are printed inside the front cover of the accreditation manual.

The agency meets this Subsection.

Documentation:

Exhibit 30, CNME Members List.  
 Exhibit 11, Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures.  
 Exhibit 17L-11, Minutes of Council Meeting.  
 Petition Addendum, ESAP, p. I-3.

**602.13(j) Provisions for the inclusion of representatives of the public in its policy and decision-making bodies, responsible for its accrediting activities or for the retention of advisors who can provide information about issues of concern to the public.**

The Articles of Incorporation as amended provide that the Commission on Accreditation shall contain two public members who are "not naturopathic physicians or on the faculty or board of a college of naturopathic medicine and shall represent the general public. They shall be appointed by the other directors of the Corporation."

The Council recently adopted an amendment to the By-laws which states that the public members "shall serve for no more than two terms of three years."

The current public members of the Commission are a dean of students at a private college and the principal of a middle school.

The agency meets the requirements of this Subsection.

Documentation:

Exhibits 3, 4, Articles of Incorporation.  
 Exhibit 17L-11, Minutes of CNME meeting.  
 Exhibit 30, Council membership list.  
 Exhibit 32, Resumes of Council members.

**602.13(k) With regard to institutions or programs of study that admit students on the basis of their ability to benefit from the education or training offered, any criteria established by the agency with respect to nationally recognized, standardized, or industry-developed tests designed to measure the aptitude of prospective students to complete successfully the program to which they have applied.**

CNME colleges do not normally admit ability-to-benefit students within the meaning of this criterion. All candidates for admission must have at least three years of course work leading

to a baccalaureate degree at an accredited or candidate institution. The Council has not established criteria for tests designed to measure a student's ability to benefit from training offered.

Documentation:

Exhibit 11, Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures, p. III-8.

602.14 National recognition.

The Secretary determines whether an accrediting agency demonstrates that its policies, evaluation methods and decisions are accepted throughout the United States by, as appropriate --

(a) **Educators and educational institutions;**

According to the petition, the universe of educational institutions eligible to apply to CNME is small: "there are three resident naturopathic degree granting institutions in North America that we are aware of: Bastyr College in Seattle, Washington, National College in Portland, Oregon, and Ontario College in Toronto, Canada." Two of these colleges hold status with CNME, and the Ontario College has applied for Communicating Status. According to lists in the petition, however, there are several other naturopathic colleges in the United States (a reported 16 total). The Council has found that some of these colleges no longer exist; others are correspondence schools. It believes that its two colleges are presently the only ones producing graduates eligible for licensure as naturopathic physicians in any State.

The petition Addendum notes the participation of prominent naturopathic medical educators in Council activities as evidence of acceptance by the educators in the profession.

Regarding acceptance in the educational community generally, the Council reports that it uses non-naturopathic professionals from the educational community on visiting teams. Also, the Council has participated in a joint review of Bastyr College with the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges. The present executive director of the Council was formerly associated with NASC. The Commission on Accreditation has members who educators from non-naturopathic institutions.

The petition includes a 1986 letter of support from a "formerly competing accrediting agency for naturopathic medical education," the American Naturopathic Medical Certification & Accreditation Board, Inc., as well as a letter from the Associated Students of

NCNM (National College).

**602.14 (b) Licensing bodies, practitioners, and employers in the professional or vocational fields for which the educational institutions or programs within the agency's jurisdiction prepare their students; and**

Regarding licensing bodies, the petition reports that graduates of schools which hold status with CNME are eligible for licensure in all of the states and Canadian provinces that license naturopathic physicians. Currently eight states license this profession. Regarding the recognition of CNME specifically by state licensing boards, the petition includes a section of the Arizona Revised Statutes, which refers to a naturopathic college as one approved or accredited by an agency recognized by the Board, "including the Council on Naturopathic Medical Education." The petition includes a section of Connecticut's licensure statute which also refers to the Council, as does the Administrative Rules of the Oregon Board of Naturopathic Examiners. The petition notes that the CNME was asked to provide information on naturopathic medicine to the Nebraska legislature during recent hearings. Exhibit 40 of the petition is a letter of 1986 from the President of the Naturopathic Physicians Licensing Examination (NPLEX) Board expressing support for CNME efforts.

The Articles of Incorporation of the CNME provide that the Federation of Naturopathic Medical Licensing Boards may appoint two representatives to the Council. These two seats were recently filled by appointees of the reorganized and reincorporated Federation of Naturopathic Medical Licensing Boards, Inc. The petition includes a letter of support from the old Board, which had appointed members, as well as a letter from the new incorporated Federation, which has named two members.

Practitioners: The American Association of Naturopathic Physicians, the "largest professional association," was one of the groups to reactivate the Council, and it appoints one member to the Council. State associations of naturopathic physicians (currently 5) also appoint members to the Council. Other states have applied for representation on the Council, according to the petition.

The petition points out that one association, the American Naturopathic Medical Association, opposes the recognition of CNME. The CNME petition narrative account of its relationship with the ANMA is appended to this analysis for reference (Appendix 2). A third party representing the ANMA (and the Puerto Rico Naturopathic Medical Association) appeared at the National Advisory Committee's December 1988 meeting to oppose renewal of CNME's recognition. As of the November 1989 meeting

of CNME, the ANMA indicated that it was no longer an applicant for membership in CNME.

**602.14(c) Recognized agencies.**

The Council has participated in a joint site visit to Bastyr College with the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges. The current executive director of CNME was formerly a member of the NASC Commission on Colleges and a temporary staff associate with the Commission. The Commission has sent a letter supporting the work of CNME (Attachment 4).

The CNME is not a member of the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation; it has stated its intention to pursue such membership when recognition by the Secretary of Education has "stabilized."

The agency complies with criterion 602.14.

Documentation:

- Exhibit 32, Resumes of Council members.
- Exhibit 34, Resume of Executive Director.
- Exhibit 36, Letter from the American Naturopathic Medical Certification Board.
- Exhibit 37, Letter from Associated Students of NCNM.
- Exhibit 4-3, Articles of Incorporation.
- Exhibit 7-1, Connecticut statute.
- Exhibit 9-9, Oregon statute.
- Exhibit 47, Correspondence with Nebraska legislature.
- Exhibit 40, Letter from the NPLEX Board President.
- Exhibit 48, Correspondence with Washington State Higher Education Coordinating Board.
- Exhibit 38, Letter from President, FNMLB.
- Exhibit 39, Letter from President, FNMLB, Inc.

**602.15 Resources.**

The Secretary determines whether an accrediting agency has, and will be likely to have sufficient resources to carry out its accreditation function in light of its requested scope of recognition, including --

- (a) Administrative staff and financial resources; and

The administrative staff of the Council is the Executive Director, who is assisted by Council officers. The current

executive director assumed this position in 1983. He has been president of a community college and has served on a temporary

basis as a staff associate for the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Colleges. He also was a member of that Commission. He holds a Ph.D in educational administration and higher education.

The Council retains typing, accounting and legal services as needed. As the petition notes, because the number of applicant and accredited schools is small, the administrative staff presently is adequate to carry out accreditation functions.

Financial resources are obtained from application fees, institutional and association membership dues, and donations. The Council recently increased dues to provide for contingencies and to raise money to apply for recognition by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation.

Budgets for the years 1989 and 1990 are included as petition exhibits. The 1989 budget shows income of \$6850, primarily from dues of institutions and professional associations and application fees. An estimated \$500 from donations is listed. Expenses of \$6200 include the salary and expenses of the executive director, meeting expenses, clerical and other expenses associated with the support of an accrediting agency. The 1990 budget estimates income at \$8900 with expenses of \$5200.

The petition includes an audited financial statement for the year ended April 30, 1987. In November 1989 CNME also submitted the recently completed audit for the year ended December 31, 1988. Under a recent bylaws amendment, an audit of the financial records by an independent certified public accountant will be performed no less than every three years.

The 1987 audited statement shows assets of \$7,442 and liabilities of \$6,367, with a fund balance of \$1,075 as of April 30, 1987. The 1988 audit was conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards by a certified public accountant. The statement is brief, showing support and revenues of \$6,903 and expenses of \$5,519 for the year. Revenues were from membership dues and "other" (\$1,598). Expenses were for office and publications, consulting services, and travel and meetings. There was an excess of support and revenues over expenditures of \$1,384 for the year. As a result of a negative fund balance of \$831 as of January 1, 1988, the fund balance for December 31, 1988 was \$553. (A treasurer's report for May 20-November 4, 1989, provided to the Council at its November 1989 meeting shows income of \$2,500, all from dues, and expenses of \$1,988.43, with a fund balance as of November 4, 1989, of \$2,196.95.

The agency complies with this Subsection in that it appears to have sufficient administrative and financial resources in light of its scope of recognition.

Documentation:

Exhibit 34, Resume of Executive Director.  
Exhibit 50, Budget for 1989.  
Exhibit 51, Budget for 1990.  
Exhibit 53, April 30, 1987 Financial Statement.  
Petition Addendum, December 31, 1988 Financial Statement.

602.15(b) Competent and knowledgeable personnel responsible for on-site evaluation, policy-making and decisions regarding accreditation and preaccreditation status.

Site visitors are selected by the Executive Director from recommendations by CNME officers and directors, the staff of the Northwest Association of Colleges and Schools, and personal contacts. The Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures manual states that a site visit team is composed of at least three persons, of whom at least one is a Commission member and at least one is unaffiliated with CNME. The manual also states that the team is composed of "professional colleagues from other colleges, the Commission and appropriate agencies"; however, there is no indication of whether these persons should be members of the naturopathic profession, educators, administrators, or possess other particular qualifications or expertise. The petition narrative lists the members of the site visit teams fielded by the agency since 1986 and includes brief biographical information about each. The numbers of site visitors per visit has been two or three with at least one naturopathic physician on each team. Site teams sometimes are accompanied by the executive director and chair of the Commission on Accreditation. In the Addendum CNME indicates that site team members have generally acquired experience with the Northwest Association. Also, CNME's executive director has begun to hold briefings before each visit, and additional training "has been proposed."

AAE has not observed an onsite evaluation visit of CNME and thus does not have first-hand knowledge of CNME evaluators. It does appear that the Council needs to delineate more clearly its criteria for selecting site visitors and the desired composition of site visit teams to ensure adequacy and consistency in evaluation teams. It also needs to ensure that visitors are adequately oriented concerning CNME standards and procedures. (See the observer's report -- items 8 and 12).

Two bodies, which overlap, make policy and accreditation decisions. The Council on Naturopathic Medical Education is composed of two sections:

- o The Institutional members -- one representative of each recognized college;
- o The Commission on Accreditation:
  - Members appointed by state naturopathic associations;
  - Two state naturopathic licensing board members appointed by the Federation of Naturopathic Medical Licensing Boards (now the FNMLB, Inc.)
  - Members of the profession appointed by national associations of naturopathic physicians acceptable to the CNME.
  - Two public members appointed by the directors of CNME.

Currently there are two institutional members and 10 members of the Commission on Accreditation, totaling 12 members of the CNME.

The full Council is responsible for development and review of the guidelines, standards and procedures for evaluation and accreditation. The Commission on Accreditation "evaluates and accredits naturopathic medical colleges and programs according to the policies established by the Council." The Council has adopted guidelines for selection of the professional members, including guidelines that the members "desirably" have experience in education or accreditation and hold a current license to practice naturopathic medicine. Resumes of Council members are included in the petition. Members appear to have credentials appropriate for membership on the Council or Commission on Accreditation. (See the observer's comments concerning the Council -- items III., 11).

The agency needs to strengthen its compliance with this subsection by developing additional guidelines for site team selection and composition and by ensuring that site visitors receive adequate training in the standards and procedures of CNME.

#### Documentation:

Petition narrative.

Exhibit 11, Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures, p. I-3.

Exhibit 32, Resumes of Council members.

Exhibit 17j-9, Minutes of Council meeting.

Petition Addendum.

602.16 Integrity of process.

The Secretary determines whether an accrediting agency adheres to the following practices and procedures in making its determinations concerning accreditation and preaccreditation status:

- (a) As an integral part of its accrediting activity, it --
- (1) Requires self-analysis by each subject educational institution or program in accordance with guidance provided by the agency; and

The CNME requires self-analysis by institutions or programs seeking Candidate or Accredited status. Guidance for self-study is provided in the Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures, including information on the format, contents, and suggested data of the study. The self-study guidelines have been recently revised and are incorporated into the 1939 accreditation manual. Copies of recent self-studies for the two institutional members of CNME are included in the petition. Self-studies do not follow the CNME self-study outline or standards exactly. One was prepared for the Northwest Association review, so it may be keyed to those standards and guidelines. CNME guidelines state that certain information must be covered in the self-study but that no set format need be followed. The Council is beginning to consider requiring a closer correspondence between the standards and self-study format, however. Nevertheless, the self-study documents seem to cover the broad areas of the CNME standards, and adequate guidance from the agency is available.

Documentation:

Exhibit 11, Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures, pp. II-8 - II-14.

Exhibit 17L 3-5, Changes in self-study guidelines.

Exhibits 18, 19, 22, 23, Self-study documents and catalogs.

Addendum.

- 602.16(a) (2) Conducts an on-site review of the institution or program, conducts its own independent analyses and evaluations of the data furnished by the institution or program, and provides a written report on the review to the institution or program concerning --

An on-site review is conducted for initial grants of candidacy status and accredited status. Recognized candidates are reinspected and reevaluated every two years. Reevaluation and revisits of accredited institutions occur at intervals of no longer than five years.

Institutions are instructed to provide certain documents to the site visitors on campus, in addition to the information contained in the self-study, and to send certain other materials directly to the visiting team. Site visitor instructions indicate that the site visitors set aside time at the beginning of the visit for study of these documents assembled by the institution. They are instructed also to conduct interviews with various individuals and groups in the institution. The report of the site visit team is then reviewed by the Commission on Accreditation along with other data, including the institutional self-study.

The site team provides a written report on the review to the institution or program.

The agency complies with this Subsection.

Documentation:

Exhibit 11, Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures.

602.16(a)(2)(i)      The strengths and weaknesses of the institution or program (both at the main campus and branch campus or off-campus locations), including areas needing improvement; and

The accreditation manual has two sections pertinent to the contents of the visiting team report. First, the instructions for site visit teams note that the team will leave "a written list of what they consider to be the strengths and weaknesses of the institution with the chief administrative officer." Site visit report instructions indicate that site visitors will comment on "unusual characteristics", "unique" programs, "effective forms of organization and instruction and the like." The report also "will set forth the limitations and difficulties which the institution is experiencing . . . as well as the institution's particular strengths." The report will indicate areas in which the applicant may not be or is not in compliance with the standards. CNME institutions currently do not have branches. Branches are treated as a "substantive change" requiring a site visit within a year.

Sample site visit reports were submitted in the petition. These reports appear to contain strengths, weaknesses and suggestions for improvement. The reports are not uniform in format, however, a fact which could affect the agency's compliance with Criterion 602.16(c). It appears that CNME should provide clearer direction concerning the format and contents of site visit reports. (Note also the observer's report on the Council's meeting -- item 12).

Documentation:

Exhibit 11, Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures, pp. II-17, II-18.

Exhibit 17L-6, Additions to instructions for reports.

Exhibits 20 and 21, Sample site visit reports.

**602.16(a)(2)(ii) The institution's or program's performance respecting the assessment of student achievement as described in 602.17.**

The Council has amended the instructions for site visit reports to state that "the report will address specifically the institution's performance in respect to the assessment of student achievement in relation to the educational effectiveness of the program." This statement now appears in the revised accreditation manual. The petition notes that no site visits have been conducted since this amendment was adopted but states that site visit reports have always addressed assessment of student achievement. Sample site visit reports do show some evidence of this, but reports need strengthening in this area.

Documentation:

Exhibit 17L-6, Minutes of Council meeting.

**602.16(b) It re-evaluates at reasonable intervals the institutions or programs to which it has granted accreditation or preaccreditation status.**

Accredited institutions and programs are re-evaluated at least every five years, during which time progress reports may be required on areas of weakness. Candidates for Accreditation may hold that status for up to six years. They are reinspected and reevaluated every two years. All institutions submit annual progress reports.

The agency complies with this Subsection.

Documentation:

Exhibit 11, Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures,  
pp. II-30-II-31.

602.16(c) It bases its decisions regarding the award of accreditation or preaccreditation status upon its published criteria and provides advance public notice of proposed new or revised criteria, providing interested parties adequate opportunity to comment on such proposals prior to their adoption.

The Commission states in its manuals that accreditation signifies that an institution meets "essentially all" of the educational standards. The Commission has developed site visit checklists keyed to the standards to assure that decisions are based on the standards. However, given AAE's limited observation of the agency's site visit and Commission procedures, it is difficult to assess the agency's compliance with this portion of the criterion. It is noted that site visit reports do not follow a standard format keyed to the standards, a point noted also by a member of the Council (see AAE observer's report).

In 1987 the Council amended its By-laws to add the specific requirement that standards and rules will not be changed without due notice and adequate opportunity to comment by "all persons, institutions and organizations significantly affected by the Council's accreditation activities."

The petition reports that the Council has completed two revisions of standards since 1986 when it established the practice of obtaining public comment. Documentation in the petition includes an undated memorandum (said to be from 1987) from the CME executive director concerning proposed changes in documents. It states that the list of proposed changes "is now being distributed for final comment by the Council's constituencies and the public. Comments will be accepted until the Council's Fall meeting October 31, 1987, at which time they will be voted on for adoption. Comments should be directed to the Executive Director."

The second document is a "Dear Colleague" letter of March 6, 1989 concerning changes in the Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures, 1988 Edition. It asks that the recipients provide opinions on the proposed changes. It states that the Council will meet on April 22, 1989, to consider these changes.

The petition reports that general meetings of the Council are open to the public and "comments and suggestions are actively solicited." Meetings of the Council usually coincide with naturopathic professional meetings.

The agency meets the requirements of this Subsection, with the reservation stated above. However, the Council should assure that site visit reports consistently contain sufficient information for the Commission to determine whether schools adhere to its published criteria.

Documentation:

Exhibit 17 g-10, Minutes of CNME meetings.  
Exhibit 54, Examples of notice of proposed revised standards.  
Observer's Report.

**602.16(d) With regard to the award of preaccreditation status, it applies criteria and follows procedures that are appropriately related to those used to award accreditation status.**

The Commission awards the preaccreditation status of "Recognized Candidate for Accreditation." To be eligible to apply for this status an institution must meet the General Eligibility Standards and have completed one year of operation. Procedures for Candidate status are essentially the same as those used for accreditation, that is, the applicant institution must complete a self-study and receive an onsite visiting team of at least three persons. The site visit team prepares a written report which is reviewed by the Commission on Accreditation together with the institutional self-study and other information.

Candidates are reinspected and reevaluated every two years. Candidate status is granted for a maximum period of six years.

The criteria used are the General Eligibility Standards and the Educational Standards. An institution is expected to have the potential to be accredited, that is to meet the educational standards, within six years.

The agency meets the requirements of this Subsection.

Documentation:

Exhibit 11, Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures, pp. I-7, II-3, II-5, II-6, II-8, II-19, II-20, II-33, II-35.

**602.16(e) It offers appropriate and fair written procedures for appeals of its denial or withdrawal of accreditation or preaccreditation status. Such written procedures shall be made promptly available to the chief executive official of any institution or program affected by such a change in status.**

The Appeals Policy and Procedure is published in the Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures manual. It provides for appeals of decisions to deny or remove candidacy and deny or remove accreditation. Grounds for filing an appeal are stated. The President of the CIME appoints a five-member Appeal Board, none of whom is a current member of the Commission on Accreditation or has served on an evaluation team to the institution. The Board holds a hearing at which all parties may be represented by counsel or authorized spokesmen and examine the evidence presented.

The Appeal Board may sustain the decision of the Commission, grant the application, or remand the case to the Commission with instructions for a new self-study and onsite review. The chief executive officer is supplied a written decision of the Appeal Board.

In April 1989 the Council adopted the following addition to the appeal procedures:

The possibility of appeal, and notice of the appeal procedures including its costs, will be made available to the chief executive officer of an institution affected by appealable action of the Commission in the report of the decision to the institution.

This statement, slightly modified, has been added to the 1989 edition of the accreditation manual. The Council has not had any appeals of adverse actions, so no documentation of its appeals procedures is available. However, it appears to meet this Subsection.

Documentation:

Exhibit 11, Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures, pp. II-24, - II-26.

Exhibit 17L-7, Minutes of the Council.

Petition Addendum, 1989 ESAP.

602.16(f) It maintains a written policy under which it notifies the Secretary within 30 days of any final decision --

- (1) To withdraw accreditation or preaccreditation status from an institution or program; or
- (2) To place an accredited or preaccredited institution or program on a publicly announced probationary status.

In April 1989 the Council adopted the following policy:

Withdrawal of accreditation or Candidacy or the placing of an institution or program on public probation will be reported to the U.S. Secretary of Education by the Executive Director of the CNME within 30 days of a final decision by the Commission or, if there is an appeal, within 30 days of the completion of the appeals process.

This policy is stated in the 1989 edition of Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures.

The agency complies with this Subsection.

Documentation:

Exhibit 17L-6, Minutes of CNME meeting.  
Petition Addendum, 1989 ESAP.

**602.16(g) Its organization, functions, and procedures include effective controls against conflicts of interest and against inconsistent application of its criteria and standards.**

The petition points out that the Council was deliberately divided into two classes upon its reactivation in 1985 to prevent conflicts of interests that may arise by having the institutional members of the agency represented in accreditation decisions. The institutional members are represented on the Council, but they are not represented on the Commission on Accreditation, which makes the accreditation decisions. The Commission consists of representatives of state and national associations of naturopathic medical practitioners, licensing boards, and public members. The amended Bylaws of the Council state that the organizations appointing members of the Commission "are encouraged, as much as practicable, to avoid appointing more than one (1) person who holds a naturopathic medical degree from a particular naturopathic medical college."

In 1987 the Council adopted a specific policy on conflict of interest on the part of the Commission and site team members, which is found in the petition narrative (p. 33) and in minutes of a Council meeting (Exhibit 17g-10).

As noted above, the Commission has two public representatives who bring an outside perspective to the decisions of the agency. Also, site visit teams include at least one person not affiliated with CNME. Other provisions to reduce the possibility of conflict of interest are the provision that an institution may challenge the appointment of up to two site visitors and the opportunity of the institution to respond to the facts and conclusions of the site visit report before action on it.

The Council seeks to ensure consistent application of standards through use of a "Worksheet for Site Visits" which is a checklist keyed to the required documentation list, the General Eligibility Standards, and the Educational Standards. The site visitors indicate whether each item is "met," "marginal," or "not met." (However, see comments of the AAE observer on the use of the Worksheet-item 8). CNME staff or the Commission chairman accompanies site teams, a practice that helps to assure consistent application of standards. Team training is another common way to assure consistency, and the agency indicates that it now has team briefings before site visits and plans to have additional site visitor training. Previous comments on the format and consistency of site visit reports should be noted.

The petition points out that institutions have the opportunity to challenge any perceived inconsistencies in the application of standards through the response to the site visit report and through the appeals process.

The agency meets the requirements of this Subsection minimally. It should publish conflict of interest provisions in its manual and ensure consistent application of standards through team training and standardization of onsite visit procedures.

Documentation:

Exhibit 49-3, Sec. 3(e), Amended By-laws of the Council.  
 Exhibit 17g-10, Minutes of Council meeting.  
 Exhibit 55, Worksheet for naturopathic program evaluation.

**602.16(h) If the institution or program elects to make public disclosure of its status, it requires that each institution or program to which it has granted accreditation or preaccreditation status disclose that status accurately, including the academic or instructional programs covered by the status.**

The Educational Standard and Accreditation Procedures manual includes a section on "Publication of Status," which requires institutions to disclose whether they are accredited as an institution or for a specific program, and whether they are accredited or a Candidate for Accreditation.

The agency meets the requirements of this Subsection.

Documentation:

Exhibit 11, Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures, p. II-33.

602.16(i) It maintains a systematic program of review designed to assess the validity and reliability of its criteria, procedures, and standards relating to its accrediting and preaccrediting activity and their relevance to the educational and training needs of affected students.

In 1987 the Council amended its By-laws to incorporate definitions of "validity" and "reliability" and the requirement that the Council will regularly review standards and procedures to ascertain their continuing validity and reliability. The By-laws have not yet been updated to reflect this amendment, however.

The definition of validity is that "standards of the Council are to be valid in that an independent observer of an accredited institution may infer high quality in the institution or program by virtue of its compliance with the standards." A definition of reliability is implied in the statement that "[the standards] are to be applied consistently and with minimal error to applicant and member institutions."

The Council has reviewed its documents three times since 1985 for "error, ambiguity, non-compliance with Department of Education criteria, redundancy, omission, or inadequacy." Regarding any formal assessment of the validity of standards, criteria and procedures, the petition reports that a Liaison Committee on "parallelism" among the standards of naturopathic professional organizations has been formed. Its purpose is to facilitate communication among various bodies and obtain consensus in the profession about what the standards for the profession should be. At its November 1989 meeting the Council received the report of this Committee (see attachment 3) and will study it further for action at the May 1990 meeting. The report proposes a systematic approach to the review of the validity of the CNME standards. The Council agreed that it needs to undertake a separate study of the reliability of its process.

The petition reports that several documents have been collected in preparation for the validity review, including a Job Task Analysis for the Naturopathic Physicians Licensing Examination Board, a survey of practice trends, Standards of Practice of a state association, and a research proposal on evaluating health care outcomes of naturopathic medicine. The petition reports also that a letter is "being prepared" to request information on complaints received by state licencing boards.

The Council believes that its new requirements on documentation of educational outcomes also will provide information for validity review.

The Council has made some comparisons of its processes with other agencies to assess the reliability of its criteria, standards and procedures, and it is presently doing a "detailed comparison" with reports of the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges and state agencies in Oregon and Washington. "At the several opportunities that it has had to compare evaluations, agency reports have indicated similar areas of concern."

In summary, it appears that the Council has developed a good strategy for assessing the validity of its standards, criteria and procedures. The Council has taken some steps to assess reliability; however, a strategy for formal assessment of reliability is yet to be developed.

The agency needs to strengthen compliance with this Subsection.

Documentation:

Exhibit 17g-3, Minutes of CNME and Commission meeting.

Exhibit 17g-10, Amendments to By-laws.

Exhibit 56, Job Task Analysis for the Profession of  
Naturopathy.

Exhibit 57, Survey of Practice Trends in Naturopathic Medicine.

Exhibit 58, Standards of Practice.

Exhibit 59, Research Proposal: A Clinical Database Record for  
Naturopathic Medicine.

Petition Addendum.

**602.16(j) It maintains complete and accurate records of its last two reviews of each institution or program, and accurate permanent records of its decisions with respect to preaccreditation, accreditation, and adverse actions.**

The agency reports that since 1985 it has kept "complete records" of all reviews and that "there are records of all decisions made by the Commission dating back to the Council's founding in 1978." The petition Addendum clarifies that "complete records" of a review include all related documents.

The agency meets the requirements of this Subsection.

Documentation:

Petition narrative, p. 37.

Petition Addendum.

**602.17      Focus on educational effectiveness.**

The Secretary determines whether an accrediting agency, in making its accrediting decisions, systematically obtains and considers substantial and accurate information on the educational effectiveness of postsecondary educational institutions or programs, especially as measured by student achievement, by --

**602.17 (a) Determining whether an educational institution or program maintains clearly specified educational objectives consistent with its mission and appropriate in light of the degrees or certificates it awards;**

The Council systematically obtains and considers information on an institution's or program's educational objectives consistent with its mission and appropriate in light of naturopathic degrees. First, the General Eligibility Standards, which must be met before an institution may be accredited, require that an institution "has a statement of mission and objectives adopted by the administration and governing board which demonstrates that its purposes are appropriate to naturopathic education." Another Eligibility Standard requires that the institution have a current and accurate catalog and other publications describing the institution's mission and objectives. The catalog requirement has been recently amended to state that the catalog "shall include the program's educational objectives." The Educational Standards have a standard on "mission and objectives" which states that "the objectives of each institution should be clearly defined and should address the preparation of the naturopathic physician to provide patient care. . ."

Information on educational objectives is obtained through the self-study document and the catalog of the institution or program. The self-study guidelines found in the Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures suggest that the following data be included and analyzed in the self-study: "History and Mission: a. Brief history of the institution, b. Definition of the institution's mission; Any recent changes in definition of educational task and contemplated changes." Sample self-studies included in the petition describe institutional missions and objectives.

Site visitors are expected to verify onsite that the General Eligibility requirements concerning mission and objectives appropriate to naturopathic education are met. The site team worksheet indicates whether mission and objectives are clearly defined. Actual visiting team reports included in the petition comment on institutional mission and objectives. Catalogs, site team reports and self-study documents are considered by the Commission on Accreditation in its decisions.

The agency meets the requirements of this Subsection.

Documentation:

Exhibit 11, Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures,  
pp. II-3 - II-4, II-9, II-15-II-16.  
Exhibit 17L-4, Minutes of Council meeting.  
Exhibit 55, Visiting team worksheet.  
Exhibits 20, 21, Site visit reports.  
Exhibits 18, 19, Institutional self-studies.

**602.17 (b) Verifying that satisfaction of certificate and degree requirements by all students, including students admitted on the basis of ability to benefit, is reasonably documented, and conforms with commonly accepted standards for the particular certificates and degrees involved, and that institutions or program confer degrees only on those students who have demonstrated educational achievement as assessed and documented through appropriate measures;**

This criterion is addressed by the Standard on "Scholastic Regulations," which states, "the candidate for graduation must have completed the prescribed curriculum of the college and have complied with all its regulations before a degree is granted." This standard was revised in April 1989 to add that the candidate also must have "demonstrated educational achievement appropriate to patient care and assessed and documented through verifiable and consistently applied academic and clinical measures."

The requirement for documentation of the satisfaction of degree requirements seems to be addressed to some extent by the Standard on "Records and Reports," which requires that "each institution shall maintain an adequately detailed system of records on each student from application credentials through the total period of attendance." The records must include data on matriculation, attendance, grades.

These items are included on the visiting team worksheet for verification onsite, although the recent amendments to the standards have not yet been incorporated into the worksheet. It is unclear to what extent site visitors are expected to verify, by examining documentation, that degree requirements are met and that institutions confer degrees only on students demonstrating educational achievement. Instructions for site visits are not specific about this, and AAEB has not observed any CNME onsite visit for first-hand observation of a team's activities. Actual site visit reports in the petition do refer to checking student

records and evaluating grading practices, but there is no clear evidence of the kind of verification called for in this criterion. The petition Addendum states that site visitors do examine a sample of student records to compare with standards, however.

Part of this criterion requires that the satisfaction of degree requirements conforms with commonly accepted standards for the particular degree involved. The CNME has defined a minimum curriculum that must be met by colleges. This minimum standard is intended to provide "a consistent model of key elements for colleges of naturopathic medicine." The core curriculum is listed on the site visit worksheet for verification onsite that the elements of the degree curriculum are provided. This portion of this Subsection appears to be met.

The agency is in partial compliance with this Subsection in that the agency has not demonstrated that it verifies the documented satisfaction of degree requirements and the award of degrees only to students demonstrating educational achievement.

Documentation:

Exhibit 11, Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures, p. III-10, p. III-6.

Exhibit 17L-9, Minutes of CNME Meeting.

Exhibit 55, Site Visitor Worksheet.

Exhibits 20, 21, Site visit reports.

**602.17(c) Determining that institutions or programs document the educational achievements of their students, including students admitted on the basis of ability to benefit, in verifiable and consistent ways, such as evaluation of senior theses, reviews of student portfolios, general educational assessments (e.g., standardized test results, graduate or professional school test results, or graduate or professional school placements), job placement rates, licensing examination results, employer evaluations, and other recognized measures.**

The CNME standards have been recently amended to address this criterion. Standards on the requirements for a degree state: "The candidate for graduation must have completed the prescribed curriculum of the college and have complied with all its regulations and demonstrated educational achievement appropriate to patient care as assessed and documented through verifiable and consistently applied academic and clinical measures before a degree is granted." The standards also contain a requirement that institutions establish a grading system which clearly

differentiates levels of academic performance. Another recent addition to the standards under "Public Disclosure" requires that a college make available to the public certain measures of program effectiveness, "including the number of graduates, graduation rates, graduates' performance on licensing examinations and the number of recent graduates in practice or professionally related occupations."

Other than these recent additions, the standards contain relatively few requirements for an institution to evaluate the educational achievements of its students.

On the other hand, the revised self-study guidelines seem to address this criterion more directly. The section on "self-study data" now reads, in part:

The following list is indicative of at least some of the data which is to be included and analyzed in the self-study

1.d Documentation of the level of achievement of the institutional mission and educational effectiveness in quantifiable terms, such as the number of graduates, performance on licensing exams, number licensed, number in practice or in professional related occupations, etc.

The self-study guidelines suggest, under "student characteristics", that the self-study include data on "results of standardized tests and other measures of student achievement."

As the petition has stated previously, no institution has been reviewed since the adoption of the new self-study requirements and standards, so institutional self-studies and site visit reports do not yet reflect the recent requirements for documenting achievement. The site visit team worksheets need to be updated to reflect the added standards.

Students are expected to fulfill a clinical requirement. The standards state that "the competence of the students is evaluated." The petition narrative states that clinical training must have evaluation processes similar to the lecture portions of the curriculum. Sample site team reports show evidence of clinical evaluations conducted. The petition states that an evaluation of clinical outcomes and patient satisfaction would be an "ideal end point determination for educational outputs. Progress is being made in this direction." However, the petition concludes that this sort of evaluation may be too far removed from the educational process to be of value. The petition states that a better evaluation might be the assessment of clinical skills and that this is already done through course outlines, grades and clinical requirements.

Regarding the use of licensure data, the petition reports that the Naturopathic Physicians Licensing Examination Board (NPLEX) administers a national standardized licensing examination which is beginning to replace individual state examinations. The petition notes that "tracking grades of graduates on this test will over the years offer a means of evaluating evolving curricula." Institutions and the Council are obtaining and evaluating these results to some extent currently.

The sample self-study documents submitted show evidence of institutions' conducting surveys of alumni, and site team reports comment on students' potential for success as practitioners.

On the whole, it appears that the CNCE Standards still need to be strengthened to include more specific requirements concerning assessment of outcomes and effectiveness. However, the new self-study requirements clearly show the agency's intent to require the kind of assessment that meets this criterion. Also the agency states in the Addendum that it plans to develop more "useful" standards on educational outcomes.

The agency needs to strengthen compliance with this Subsection.

Documentation:

Exhibit 11, Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures, pp. III-10, II-9 - II-10.

Exhibit 17L-9, Minutes of CNME meeting.

Exhibits 18, 19, Self-study documents.

Exhibits 20, 21, Site team reports.

**602.17(d) Determining that institutions or programs admitting students on the basis of ability to benefit employ appropriate methods, such as preadmissions testing or evaluations, for determining that such students are in fact capable of benefiting from the training or education offered;**

CNME institutions do not normally admit students on the basis of ability to benefit in the meaning of this criterion. The Council's requirements state that for admission, students must furnish evidence of having completed at least three years of course work leading to a baccalaureate degree at an accredited or candidate institution. However, the Council now requests that the self-study contain data on the ability level of entering students as measured by the pre-professional college record, and "for students admitted on the basis of ability to benefit, pre-admissions testing and evaluation."

The agency meets this Subsection.

Documentation:

Exhibit 11, Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures,  
pp. III-8, p. II-10.  
Exhibit 17L-4, Minutes of CAME meeting.

602.17(e) Determining the extent to which institutions or programs broadly and accurately publicize, particularly in representations directed to prospective students, the objectives described in paragraph (a) of this section, the assessment measure described in paragraph (c) of this section, the information obtained through those measures, and the methods described in paragraph (d) of this section; and

The petition states that the Council and Commission have not in the past determined the extent to which institutions published assessment measures and data. However, in April 1989 the Council adopted the following addition to the Educational Standards under "Administration":

Public Disclosure

The College shall make available to the public, and especially to prospective students, information regarding measures of the program's educational effectiveness to include the number of graduates and graduation rates, graduates' performance on licensing examinations, and the number of recent graduates in practice in professionally related occupations.

This statement has recently been incorporated into the Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures, and the Commission has not reviewed any institutions since the adoption of this provision. The standard is commendable, and documentation of the manner in which it will be implemented should be provided when available.

The standards require that an institution clearly define its objectives. A recent amendment to the Educational Standards under "Catalog," requires that the catalog contain "the program's educational objectives." Also, the petition Addendum points out that colleges are required to conduct orientation sessions and to make certain disclosures to new students and that these sessions are "accessible to prospective students."

The agency meets this criterion partially since it does meet (a) above and has adopted a standard relative to the rest of the criterion. However, adequate documentation of implementation of the standard is not yet available.

Documentation:

Exhibit 17L-8, Minutes of Council meeting.  
Exhibit 11, Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures,  
pp. III-6-III-7.

602.17 (f) Determining the extent to which institutions or program systematically apply the information obtained through the measures described in paragraph (c) of this section toward steps to foster enhanced student achievement with respect to the degrees or certificates offered by the institution or program.

In April 1989, the Council added to the self-study instructions (but apparently not to the Educational Standards) a requirement that institutions show how the results of measures of educational effectiveness are used to foster enhanced student achievement. Specifically, the amended self-study guidelines suggest under "Control and Administration" that the institution include data on "processes by which the results of measures of educational effectiveness are systematically applied to foster enhanced student achievement." The petition notes that "this requirement has not yet been applied in an evaluation."

While this self-study requirement is commendable, it is a self-study guideline and not an educational standard. Therefore, it is unclear whether the Council can actually require the systematic application of achievement data to enhance institutional quality in its accredited colleges. The petition Addendum does offer additional evidence that assessment information has been used in the past to foster enhanced student achievement. In view of this and the fact that the agency has adopted the self-study requirements above, AAE finds that agency meets but needs to strengthen compliance with this criterion by strengthening the standards relevant to the use of assessment data.

Documentation:

Exhibit 17L-4, Minutes of CNME meeting.  
Exhibit 11, Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures,  
p. II-B.  
Petition Addendum.

**602.18 Regard for adequate and accurate public disclosure.**

The Secretary determines whether an accrediting agency, in making its accrediting decisions, reviews elements of institutional or program integrity as demonstrated by the adequacy and accuracy of disclosures of information that do not mislead the public (and especially prospective students) as to --

- (a) The institution's or program's resources, admission policies and standards, academic offerings, policies with respect to satisfactory academic progress, fees and other charges, refund policies, and graduation rates and requirements;

The CNME standards currently have a standard for catalogs which requires that an institutional catalog contain descriptions of the courses and programs offered, the library, laboratories, clinical facilities, other learning resources, administrative personnel, and faculty and their academic credentials. Admissions policies ("entrance requirements") and a description of the courses, "showing for each subject its contents and value in semester or quarter hours," must be stated. Policies with respect to satisfactory progress also must be contained in the catalog ("attendance, grades, promotion"). The standards state that "tuition, matriculation, laboratory, graduation and special fees shall be listed. There is to be an explicit statement of tuition refund policy."

Graduation requirements must be included in the catalog. According to an April 1989 amendment to the standards, colleges are expected to make available to the public, and especially prospective students, data on the number of graduates and graduation rates.

Site visitors are expected to verify adherence to these requirements as shown in the site visit worksheet. (However, some of these new requirements are not yet reflected in the work sheet.) Regarding the application of the standards already in place concerning public disclosure, site visit reports show that site teams examined institutional statements regarding admissions policies, academic requirements, and educational goals.

Presumably the Commission on Accreditation considers the site visitors' report, self-study data, and catalog in making its accrediting decisions. Since AAE has not observed a meeting of the Commission on Accreditation in this review, AAE cannot confirm that the agency takes these standards into account in its decisions. However, in view of the fact that the items in this criterion are addressed in the standards, AAE believes the agency complies with this Subsection.

Documentation:

Exhibit 11, Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures,  
p. III-7.

Exhibit 17L 8-9, Minutes of CNME meeting.

Exhibit 55, Site visitors worksheet, 3, 4.

602.18(b) The institution's or program's educational effectiveness as described in 602.17;

602.18(c) Employment of recent alumni related to the education or training offered, in the case of an institution or program offering training to prepare students for gainful employment in a recognized occupation, or where the institution or program makes claims about the rate or type of employment of graduates; and

602.18(d) Data supporting any quantitative claims made by the institution with respect to any matters described in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of this section.

A recent amendment to the Educational Standards appears to address the requirements of parts (b), (c), and (d) of this criterion. The standard on "Administration" now requires:

The College shall make available to the public, and especially to prospective students, information regarding measures of the program's educational effectiveness to include the number of graduates and graduation rates, graduates performance on licensing examinations, and the number of recent graduates in practice in professionally related occupations.

Again, the petition points out that the Commission has not conducted any evaluations under these amended standards.

The petition Addendum does report that licensure results are posted at colleges and that information on employment is also available to prospective students on campus. It states also that results of surveys of alumni "with much information on post-educational careers" are available on request and at schools.

In view of the fact that the agency now has a requirement addressing these criteria, AAE finds the agency in partial compliance. However the agency will need to show how the above standard has been implemented and how the Commission applies it.

Documentation:

Exhibit 17L-8 and 9, Minutes of CNME meeting.

602.19 Regard for decisions of States and other accrediting agencies.

The Secretary determines whether an accrediting agency, in making its decisions, shows regard for the decisions of States and of other recognized accrediting agencies by conforming with the following practices:

- (a) Recognizing only those institutions or programs that are legally authorized under applicable State law to provide a program of education beyond secondary education.

The General Eligibility Standards require that an institution:

Has formal authority from the appropriate state governmental agency to grant an N.D. or N.M.D. degree, and has as its major mission the education of naturopathic doctors.

The Site Visit Worksheet requires that site visitors indicate whether an institution does or does not meet the state authorization requirements.

Self-study documents contain information on state authorization.

The agency meets the requirements of this Subsection.

Documentation:

Exhibit 11, Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures, p. II-3.  
Exhibit 55, Site Visit Worksheet.

- 602.19 (b) In considering whether to grant initial accreditation or preaccreditation status to an institution or program, taking into account actions by other recognized agencies which have denied accreditation or preaccreditation status to the institution or program, have placed the institution or program on public probationary status, or have revoked the accreditation or preaccreditation status of the institution or program.

Among the data that an institution must provide for review by the onsite visitors are the most recent reports of evaluation by other accrediting agencies and reports submitted to other accreditation and state education agencies. The self-study guidelines have been amended to require that the self-study contain information on other accrediting agencies that have accredited programs within an institution. These amended guidelines also ask that the institution state which agencies have granted candidacy to or denied or revoked accreditation or candidacy or placed the degree programs or institution on public probation.

The petition Addendum states that the Commission and site teams would consider whether reasons for a previous negative action "fall within one or more of the standards" of CNME. The petition cites an example in which CNME acted to deny a school status for the same reason that the Northwest Association previously had denied it.

The agency meets this Subsection.

Documentation:

Exhibit 17L-4, Minutes of CNME meeting.  
Exhibit 11, Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures,  
pp. II-12, II-15.  
Petition Addendum.

**602.19(c) If another recognized agency places an institution or the principal program offered by an institution on public probationary status or revokes the accreditation of the institution or principal program within an institution, promptly reviewing the accreditation or preaccreditation status it has previously granted to that institution to determine if there is cause for it to withdraw or otherwise alter that status.**

A recent amendment to the Commission's policies on regular institutional reports states the following:

If another recognized accrediting agency places the institution or program on public probation or removes its accreditation or candidacy, review of the CNME status will be undertaken by a committee of three Commission members appointed by the Chair of the Commission. The review will take place within 90 days or by the next meeting of the Commission, whichever is longer, and will culminate in a recommendation to the full Commission on whether or not there is cause to alter or withdraw the status granted by

the Commission. If the recommendation is to alter or withdraw status, the Commission will vote on this recommendation and its decision will be transmitted, along with a bill of particulars, within seven days to the chief administrative officer of the institution. (Exhibit 17L-7)

The policy appears to meet the requirements of this criterion (assuming that the appeal procedures still would apply in case of withdrawal of status).

The CNME has had no occasion to apply this policy since its adoption.

Documentation:

Exhibit 17L-7, Minutes of CNME meeting.

Report of Observation of a Meeting of  
The Council on Naturopathic Medical Education

November 4, 1989

Observer: Joan Givens

I. Background

On November 4, 1989, I observed a meeting of the Council on Naturopathic Medical Education at the Rippling River Resort, Welches, Oregon. The Council's petition for renewal of listing as a nationally recognized accrediting agency is scheduled for review in fall 1989. This observation was part of the AAE staff review of the petition.

II. Comments

The Council normally conducts its meeting and then the Commission on Accreditation (which is the Council minus the two naturopathic college representatives) meets to take accreditation actions. There was no need for the Commission on Accreditation to hold a separate meeting this time and so several of the criteria for recognition that are usually relevant to meetings of an accrediting body are not relevant to this meeting. Therefore, the following report will simply comment on highlights of the meeting, noting where appropriate any pertinent criteria.

III. Members and Attendees:

The Council has 12 members, 9 of whom were present at this meeting. These included one of the public members, who also is the chair of the Commission on Accreditation; the Council president, who represents a naturopathic medical college; the president of the other naturopathic medical college accredited by CNME; the representative of the American Association of Naturopathic Physicians; representatives of three state naturopathic associations; and two representatives of the newly constituted Federation of Naturopathic Licensing Boards, Inc. Also present to assist the Council was the Council's Executive Director. The Council's meeting was open to interested persons. There were approximately 12-15 persons in the audience, including representatives of the Ontario College of Naturopathic Medicine, which has applied for Communicating Status with the CNME. (Criteria 602.13(j), 602.15 (a) and (b)).

1. The President distributed to Council members copies of a recent audited financial statement and a financial report. He indicated that the financial report showed that the agency had revenues of \$2500, mostly from dues, expenses of \$1988, and a fund balance of \$2196. The Council has an audit of its finances every three years. (Criterion 602.15(a))
2. The Council took action to formally designate the newly established Federation of Naturopathic Medical Licensing Boards, Inc. to replace all references to a former board, the Federation of Naturopathic Medical Licensing Boards, in CNME documents. The President had written to each of the state naturopathic licensing boards to learn whether they supported the new Board. Letters were received from all states except Washington. All states replying supported the new Board. The President also had written to two members of the old Federation. One supported the new federation; the other did not. After recognizing the incorporated Federation, the council took action to seat the Federations two nominees to the Council.

There was some discussion about whether the Council had to accept any nominees submitted by appointing groups. The President indicated that the Council did not have to accept a representative automatically. He also indicated, however, that the Council does not have any specific criteria for accepting a representative and could set criteria if the need arose. He presumed that such criteria would be similar to the requirements for organizational membership on the Council. (Criterion 602.14(b)).

3. The revised manual of Educational Standards was distributed to Council members and members of the audience.
4. The Council reviewed a letter from Donald Hayhurst, President of the American Naturopathic Medical Association, indicating that ANMA has withdrawn its support from CNME and does not consider itself an applicant for membership. The President sought such information at the direction of the Council because there appeared to be some uncertainty about whether the ANMA had withdrawn its application to CNME or not. The ANMA apparently claimed that its application had already been accepted by CNME, while the Council indicated that it had not taken that action. (Criterion 602.14(b)).
5. Representatives of the Ontario College raised questions about the process and meaning of Communicating Status. It intends to apply for such status, which requires the preparation of a self-study and an onsite visit by a visiting team.

6. The President of John Bastyr College announced that his institution had been granted accreditation status for three years by the Commission on Colleges of the Northwest Association of Colleges and Schools.
7. The Council received the report of a Liaison Committee that had been charged to develop an approach to the systematic assessment of the validity of the standards. Council members were directed to study the report for action at the next meeting of the Council. The President indicated that the report deals mainly with validity. The Committee agreed that it needed a separate approach to assessment of reliability. A standards committee was appointed to continue to review this report. (Criterion 602.16(i)).
8. The Council heard the report of a committee that had studied the number of hours per subject area required in the standards. Some recommendations for temporary changes were made; however most of the recommendations will be given to the committee on the validity of the standards since the question of the number of hours to be required in the curriculum relates to the validity of the standards requirements. It was indicated that the recommendations adopted at this meeting will be sent to the colleges, state boards and other constituents for comment before final adoption at the next meeting.

During the discussion of whether schools currently meet the standards with respect to the number of curriculum hours, a concern was raised about whether the site visit teams had addressed or overlooked this requirement. Someone commented that there needed to be more support for site visit teams. There was a question about whether the "worksheets" that had been developed were being used by the site teams.

9. The Council voted to create a committee on residency programs to correspond with the AANP and other external committees on the question of whether residencies in naturopathic medicine should be developed and what options should be considered.
10. There was a question about the extent to which CNME will approve certificate programs offered by naturopathic medical colleges, that is, what could be considered to fall in the realm of naturopathy. The consensus was that the Council would continue to look at certificate programs whose content falls under the areas "traditionally" associated with naturopathic medicine. In its joint review of John Bastyr College with the Northwest Association, the CNME report used the term "support" of the certificate programs, not "accredited" (Criterion 602.11(b)).

11. The Council elected officers for the coming year. Because the Council's members are all involved in various other activities, it had some difficulty in persuading members to take on Council offices. The Council needs somehow to broaden the base of persons upon whom it relies to carry out its activities. It may need to give more responsibility for Council activities to the Executive Director to relieve the officers' burden.
12. One member noted that the Council needed better training for site visitors as well as specific guidelines for preparing site visit team reports to ensure good style and consistency. (Criteria 602.15(b), 602.16(a)(2)(i) and (ii)).
13. The next meeting of the Council was scheduled for Sunday, May 20, 1990, in Seattle, Washington.

Oregon's Board of Naturopathic Examiners Administrative Rules name only the Council as an acceptable accrediting agency (Exhibit 9-9).

The CNME has been requested to provide information on naturopathic medicine by the Nebraska legislature during recent hearings on licensure in that state (Exhibit 47).

The CNME has the endorsement of the Naturopathic Physicians Licensing Examination (NPLEx) Board, an agency which writes the only nationally accepted naturopathic board exams (Exhibit 40).

The Articles of Incorporation provide for representation of a number of professional associations. The American Association of Naturopathic physicians, the largest professional association, was active in helping to revitalize the CNME in 1985 and is represented on the Commission on Accreditation by Randall Bradley, N.D. of Nebraska. There are sitting representatives for the state associations of Arizona, Connecticut, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington, the states with the largest numbers of licensed naturopathic physicians (see Exhibit 30, Members list). It has also received the support of associations in California, Minnesota, and Massachusetts (Exhibit 41) and applications from a number of other state associations.

There is an association, the American Naturopathic Medical Association (chartered in Nevada), which now opposes the Recognition of the CNME. (There is a second organization also known as the the American Naturopathic Medical Association which was chartered in California which has expressed no opposition to CNME Recognition (Exhibit 17h-1).) The ANMA (Nevada) has endorsed the standards of the CNME and had applied for a seat on the Council (Exhibits 42 and 43). The distinction to be made between these national organizations lies in the history of naturopathic medical education and licensing as explained previously. The American Association of Naturopathic Physicians is composed of naturopathic doctors licensed by various states and provinces, although it does have a few members who do not hold licenses who meet its membership criteria by other provisions. The American Naturopathic Medical Association, though it does have some licensed members, is composed mostly of unlicensed members and who may not be licensable, with their present educations, in any state. In the past year, standards have been developed for associations that may hold a seat on the Council and for Council members representing associations (Exhibits 17h-2, 17h-8, 17j-2, 17j-9, 17j-10, and 17j-14). This was done as a result of questions that arose with the application of the ANMA (Nev) and at the urging of Department of Education staff (Exhibit 44-9).

Some CNME members believe that it may be beneficial to provide an avenue for the input of practitioners, perhaps of long experience, who happened to be unlicensed, though members do recognize the potential threat to the integrity of standards and

the national recognition of the CNME that such input may entail. To provide this avenue of input but to protect against the potential threat, the standard adopted for associations was that all members of applying associations must be licensed or eligible for licensure (qualified to sit for licensing exams) according to the laws of Connecticut, Hawaii, Arizona, Oregon, Alaska, Florida, Washington, or Utah (Exhibit 17j-13). However, the ANMA (Nev) was exempted from this requirement, thus allowing a single vote on the Council to accommodate the feedback of the unlicensed fraction of those who refer to themselves as naturopaths. At this point, it came to the attention of the Council that at least one member of the ANMA (Nev) had presented a diploma from a school in Washington state that was not authorized to give the degree (Exhibit 17i-1), the Council asked that the association provide information on its membership screening process as well as information earlier requested on continuity (annual meeting minutes) and financial stability (budgets) (see Exhibit 27-3), the ANMA President, Don Hayhurst, refused. There then ensued a series of unsupported allegations from the ANMA against the Council and its operations and against the schools holding status with it. When documentation of the allegations were requested, none was presented (Exhibit 17j-3). The situation remains unresolved though the Council continues to try to maintain communications with the ANMA (Exhibit 27).

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At the suggestion of the Executive Director of NASC, Washington state's Higher Education Coordinating Board has asked for and received the assistance of the Council in pursuing its responsibilities (Exhibit 48).

As indicated above, the policies of the CNME were derived in part from the standards of other recognized accrediting agencies, in particular, the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges and the Council on Chiropractic Education. The NASC now allows institutions whose primary purpose is specialized education to be accredited by them if the accreditation is done in conjunction with a specialized accrediting agency. Accordingly, a joint site visit was completed recently by the CNME and NASC at Bastyr College (Exhibit 17h-5). Site visitors engaged by the CNME have often been educators who have also been engaged by the NASC for the same purpose. The present CNME Executive Director was located with the assistance of NASC Executive Director James Bemis.

The CNME continues to maintain lines of communication to recognized accrediting agencies. When the CNME's Department of Education Recognition has been stabilized, the Council has committed to pursuing membership in the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation (Exhibit 17g-3).

Attachment 3  
11/4/89

**Council on Naturopathic Medical Education**

**VALIDITY AND RELIABILITY REVIEWS FOR THE STANDARDS AND  
PROCEDURES OF THE COUNCIL ON NATUROPATHIC MEDICAL  
EDUCATION**

**Part I. Validity of Standards**

Carlo Calabrese, N.D., President, Konrad Kail, N.D., and Robin Moore, N.D.

November 4, 1989

The purpose of the present document is to propose a cyclical program for the systematic review of the validity of the standards by which the Council on Naturopathic Medical Education and its Commission on Accreditation evaluates schools and colleges granting the N.D. (or N.M.D.) degree.

The Council's Liaison Committee, which works with other naturopathic professional agencies, was given the direction at the meeting of May 20, 1989 to outline a definitive approach to the validity issue. With the understanding that validity and reliability are linked, our emphasis in this document is on validity. Part II. of the reviews proposal focusing on reliability will be presented at the next meeting.

**The Mandate for Validity Review**

Validity and reliability reviews are a principle assurance of the value of the accreditation process to the institutions which voluntarily enter the process, their students, and the public. The U.S. Department of Education's Criterion 602.16(l) for the recognition of accrediting agencies requires that the Council

...maintains a systematic program of review designed to assess the validity and reliability of its criteria, procedures, and standards relating to its accrediting and preaccrediting activity and their relevance to the educational and training needs of affected students.

Accordingly, a 1987 amendment of the Council's By-laws states in Article I, Section 2.:

Standards of the Council are to be valid in that an independent observer of an accredited institution may infer high quality in the institution or program by virtue of its compliance with the standards. They are to be applied consistently and with minimal error.... Standards and procedures shall be regularly and systematically reviewed by the Council or a committee appointed by it so as to ascertain their continuing validity and reliability.

Continuing validity and reliability is stressed so that accreditation standards may keep up with -- and sometimes lead -- evolving profession needs. A cycle of activities for regular review is presented below. Department of Education reviews of the Council have provided for overhauls of standards on a yearly basis since 1986, but the Council cannot continue to rely on this mechanism. Though the Department reviews have been salutary, the process must become more finely attuned to the specific needs of the naturopathic physician in training. Hopefully, the Council will, at the present Department review, receive a multi-year recognition so that the energies that have been invested there each year can be redirected to the other efforts of Council development. The Council and its Commission on Accreditation have achieved much in terms of organization and the fulfillment of its basic mission. In the opinion of this Committee, improving the validity of its standards and the reliability of its evaluative process is the task where its best contribution can now be made to the development of the naturopathic profession and the welfare of the public.

### Outcomes Assessment and Validity

One definition of "validity" is contained in the By-laws statement above. A more general definition simply says that the validity of a standard implies that it measures what it is intended to measure. "Reliability" in standards and procedures means that they would yield the same result on repeated application. For example, a repeated evaluation of an institution in the same time frame with a different team would lead to a similar accreditation decision. Once it is determined that standards are valid, their consistent application increases reliability. Thus the reliability review will focus more on procedural and decision-making aspects of the accreditation process.

The question with respect to validity becomes: what do we intend to measure? What do we mean by "high quality in the institution or program" as stated in the By-laws? Given the present direction in education toward emphasizing the outcomes of the educational process in the determination of quality, what are the outcomes to be assessed for accomplishment? What will the measures of outcomes achievement be? Will meeting the standards lead to the desired outcome? Thus, identifying the desired outcome is fundamental to a validity review.

## Present Activities Related to Validity Review

The original responsibility of the Liaison Committee was to help ensure adequate communication among the CNME, the colleges, licensing boards, and the Naturopathic Physicians Licensing Examination Board (NPLEX). The object was to encourage parallelism among standards of different agencies. Increased communication and consequent agreement on practice and educational guidelines have an indirect influence on the validity of CNME standards as they are developed.

The schools recently gave feedback to the Committee that they wanted summaries from NPLEX on outcomes of testing for graduates. CNME has received copies of the summary sheets. A pattern of weakness in two areas was identified which the schools have been responding to. Review of the results of licensing exams is incorporated into the proposal below. The Committee has also been soliciting information from licensing boards and has collected other documents which will be useful in validity review.

The Committee proposes that the plan below be discussed among the Council members and with educational, regulatory, and professional agencies between this and the next regular CNME meeting in approximately six months when we will move that it be adopted as Council policy and procedure. Keep in mind that the history of validity reviews of this nature is short and scant. The Committee will continue to scan the educational literature and the activities of other health care providers' accrediting agencies for effective programmatic approaches to this issue and may itself recommend adjustment before a final plan is adopted at the next meeting.

## PROPOSED REVIEW PROCESS

### Organization of the Review Process

A standing Committee on Standards should be evolved separate from the present Liaison Committee. It should be composed of at least three members including a college representative, a licensing board representative, and a public member, and including among their number at least two naturopathic physicians, at least one of whom is in active practice. They are to be encouraged to call on CNME members and other health care professionals and educators to assist them in their work. They should have the ability to contract with outside experts for additional assistance within a budget to be determined by the Council. The possibility of a one time assessment of a contribution from institutional members for this task may be considered. Their efforts may be linked to curriculum and institutional development initiatives at member and non-member naturopathic colleges internationally and with education committees of

*Statement  
by the Council*

A yearly cycle for standards reviews was officially established at the meeting of 5/8/88. A review of sufficient depth, given the present maturity of standards and begun now, will take an estimated three years in order to collect and analyze the data, formulate and present recommendations for amendments of the Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures (ESAP) to the CNME, and final adoption. It should then be repeated, with a slightly different emphasis probably with less work involved, at three year intervals in order to maintain currency of standards.

A further consideration in the proposed review is costs. An estimate is made of the time required for each phase of the initial review in person/hours to arrive at recommendations to be presented to the Council. At this point in the Council's maturation, it must build a process which, while it may be challenging, is within its abilities to perform in a regular cycle. The Committee believes that, with the dedication that members have so far displayed in the discharge of their responsibilities, the review can be accomplished with present levels of resources. The use of outside assistance for the task may be appropriate.

Though the following review is proposed with little apparent flexibility, it may be that as the work is undertaken, certain lines of investigation prove fruitless and that others may appear that are especially valuable to the purpose of the review. The Committee should have the flexibility to adapt its mandate accordingly as long as the central purpose of establishing and maintaining the validity of standards is effectively pursued.

The CNME's pursuit of membership in the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA) would provide a collegial environment for this and other tasks of development and stabilization.

### Tasks of the Initial Review

1. Given the underlying importance of educational outcomes, the first task of the Committee is to collect and better define the desired outcomes of naturopathic medical education and list them as a proposed amendment to Section III. A. "Mission and Objectives" in the ESAP. It will derive the proposed desired educational outcomes after considering at least the following sources:

- a. present indications of desired outcome in the ESAP (1 hr)
- b. licensing laws for naturopathic physicians of the various states (8 hrs)
- c. the job task analysis for naturopathic physicians developed by ACSI for NPLEX (12 hours)
- d. Standards of Practice of the Arizona Naturopathic Medical Association (3 hrs)
- e. definition of naturopathic medicine developed by the American Association of Naturopathic Physicians (2 hours)

- f. definition of a naturopathic physician published by the U.S. Department of Labor (1 hour)
- g. appropriate parallelism with desired outcomes of professional education for other primary health care professions (40 hours).

When the Committee has developed the proposed list of desired outcomes (three meetings of three hours=27 person/hours), the list will then presented to the Council for adoption.

2. When the desired outcomes are adopted, the Committee will review each standard of Sections II.A. and III of the ESAP and evaluate each for significant contribution to one or more of the desired outcomes or for its necessity in providing an environment to achieve the desired outcomes. They may use the Worksheet of standards developed to facilitate site visits for this phase. (100 person/hours; much of this time needed for review of curriculum guidelines)

3. Each desired outcome will be similarly reviewed to assure that it is adequately addressed by one or more of the standards. (20 hours)

4. The Committee will then make specific recommendations to the Council for additions, deletions, or amendments to the Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures. (70 person/hours)

Total person-hours = 284

In the effort to assure positive outcomes, however they are defined, it may be tempting to continue to add new requirements as each gap is identified. There is a danger of continuously adding to standards so that it eventually becomes impossible to meet them. Deletion and substitution of requirements must also be considered, i.e. dropping standards that have little effect on quality of education so institutions can efficiently focus on the most valuable efforts. This demands concentration on the essence of naturopathic medical practice and the educational process.

#### Timeline of Initial Review

##### Council meetings:

November 1989 - Review process proposed by Committee

Spring 1990 - Review process amended and passed by Council

Fall 1990 - Desired educational outcomes proposed by Committee. May need one phone conference meeting to amend and be adopted as an intended rules change by the Council before a period of public comment.

Spring 1991- Council adopts desired educational outcomes. Between this and the next meeting is a period of intensive detailed review and correlation of standards and outcomes and writing of proposed amendments.

Fall 1991 - Committee proposes amendments to ESAP.

Spring 1992 - Discussion, adjustment, public comment.

Fall 1992 - Adopt amendments to ESAP.

### Ongoing cyclical reviews for validity of standards

After the initial validity review, the first ongoing review of standards for validity is proposed to begin in 1992. What is suggested here is what seems reasonable at this time. The future may bring developments in the maturity of the Council that may make some of its elements redundant or inadequate. At some point, perhaps in 1991, these elements of the plan should be re-evaluated.

### Tasks of ongoing cyclical reviews

The following cycles need not repeat the development of desired outcomes as in the initial review.

1. The following data will be collected and analyzed for patterns indicative of weakness in institutional performance:
  - a. complaints to the CNME or other accrediting agencies against institutions by students or others
  - b. site visit reports by the CNME or other accrediting agencies at institutions holding status with the Council
  - c. reviews of practice patterns and career satisfaction of naturopathic physicians, such as McCallan's "Trends in Naturopathic Practice" and the data from schools mandated by the Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures (1989), pages 11-8 and ff.
  - d. complaints against naturopathic physicians to each of the state licensing boards
  - e. results of standardized licensing exams (NPLEX) for naturopathic physicians
  - f. results of health care outcome studies of naturopathic medicine.
2. Review the state licensing laws, NPLEX job task analysis, and standards of practice for naturopathic physicians for changes and developments since the original derivation of the list of desired educational outcomes.
3. The list of desired educational outcomes developed in the initial review and each of the standards of Sections II. A. and III. will be reviewed in the light of information derived from the above two tasks.
4. The Committee will then make specific recommendations to the Council for additions, deletions, or amendments to the Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures.

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NORTHWEST ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

COMMISSION ON COLLEGES  
Office of the Executive Director



DEC 28, 1989

December 22, 1989

Dr. Steven G. Pappas, Chief  
Accrediting Agency Evaluation Branch  
Higher Education Management Services  
Office of Postsecondary Education  
U.S. Department of Education  
7th and D Streets, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20202

Dear Dr. Pappas:

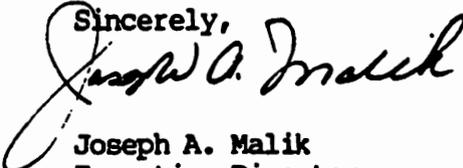
This letter is to support the Council on Naturopathic Medical Education (CNME) in its application for continuing recognition by the United States Department of Education. The Commission on Colleges of the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges has encouraged the establishment and the work of the Council on Naturopathic Medical Education. We believe that the U.S. Department of Education made the right decision in recognizing CNME. It is our hope that CNME will continue to develop into a well-established, specialized accrediting organization.

The Commission on Colleges of the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges believes that the quality of the evaluators and the standards employed are critical to the integrity of the evaluation process. A specialized accrediting body can develop a pool of evaluators with the appropriate expertise. The Commission on Colleges of the Northwest Association, by its eligibility requirements, does not accept applications from professional or vocational institutions whose range of programs is so highly specialized that a narrow specialty wholly defines the identity of the institution, unless the institution, among other items, has status with a specialized accrediting body that is recognized by the U.S.D.E. or COPA. We believe that higher education and the public are better served by a regional accrediting body working cooperatively with a specialized accrediting organization when highly specialized institutions are being evaluated.

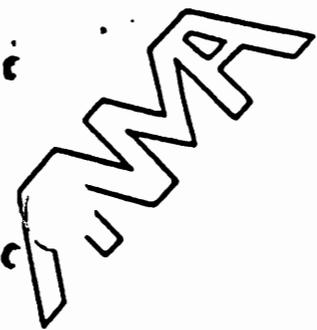
Accrediting organizations have a history of working cooperatively in serving the public interest as well as assisting in the improvement of the quality of colleges and universities. Policy statements for cooperative arrangements involving regional and specialized accrediting bodies have been well developed and function well. The Commission on Colleges has had a number of successful joint accreditation visits over the years.

Dr. Steven G. Pappas  
Page Two  
December 22, 1989

It is important that programmatic, specialized accrediting agencies provide the regional accrediting agencies with standards of excellence in the specialized fields and assist them in evaluating them. It is with that philosophy that we support the continued development of the Council for Naturopathic Medical Education.

Sincerely,  
  
Joseph A. Malik  
Executive Director

JM:b



# American Naturopathic Medical Association

Stephen D. Pappas  
Chief  
Accrediting Agency Evaluation Branch  
Room 3036  
U.S. Department of Education  
7th and D. Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20202

RE: Council on Naturopathic Medical Education  
and its Commission on Accreditation (CNME)

Dear Dr. Pappas,

I am the president of the American Naturopathic Medical Association ("ANMA"). This submission is made on behalf of ANMA in opposition to the petition for renewal of recognition by the U. S. Department of Education ("the Department") of the Council on Naturopathic Medical Education and its Commission on Accreditation ("CNME"). CNME is presently a national accrediting agency for colleges and programs providing professional education for naturopathic physicians. Renewal of CNME's recognition should be denied based upon its failure to comply with the criteria set forth in 34 C.F.R. Part 602 for recognition on accrediting agencies.

BACKGROUND ON ANMA AND CNME

ANMA, founded in 1982 in Portland, Oregon, is one of the major naturopathic organization in the United States. No corporation with the same name exists in the State of California, as stated on page 19, paragraph 5, of CNME petition. In 1983, ANMA held its first convention in Las Vegas, Nevada, during which officers and directors were elected. One elected member of the board of directors, James Sensenig, subsequently resigned from the ANMA and helped to form the American Association of Naturopathic Physicians ("AANP"), of which he became the President.

During this same time period, CNME was being organized with no communication with ANMA. In 1987, after CNME had petitioned the Department for recognition, I contacted Leslie Ross, Chief, Agency Evaluation Staff, with the Department, to express deep concern that CNME was seeking recognition without any communication whatsoever with ANMA, one of the nation's largest naturopathic organizations. It was only after several calls from AANP President Sensenig and CNME President Carlo Calabrese, assuring me that ANMA would play a significant role in CNME activities, that ANMA put aside its serious doubts and lent its support to CNME's petition. At that time, however, I was unaware of many aspects of CNME, for example, that James McConkey had any involvement in the organization of CNME or that CNME President

Carlo Calabrese was deeply involved with the National College of Naturopathic Medicine ("NCNM") as its clinic director.

At a May 7, 1988 CNME meeting in Portland, Oregon, eleven ANMA officers and members, and six CNME members, were present to address ANMA's application to become a supporting member of CNME. During the meeting, CNME accepted without condition, ANMA's application for supporting membership. However, subsequent CNME minutes of the meeting reflected otherwise. In the face of CNME's failure to correct the minutes to reflect accurately what transpired at the meeting, ANMA does not consider itself a member of, or an applicant for membership in, CNME. Appendix 1.

ANMA'S OPPOSITION TO CNME'S CONTINUED RECOGNITION

The unfairness shown repeatedly by CNME to ANMA is relatively unimportant when compared to the simple fact that CNME has not complied with, and does not now comply with, the Secretary of Education's criteria for recognition of accrediting agencies set forth in 34 C.F.R. Part 602. Documents acquired from the Department by ANMA under the Freedom of Information Act demonstrate CNME's noncompliance. These documents, coupled with the results of ANMA's independent inquiry, reveal CNME to be an organization lacking the necessary credibility to serve as an unbiased accrediting agency. CNME is incapable of objectively critiquing schools or conducting any matters pertaining to educational accreditation.

Over and above the May, 1988 CNME minutes involving ANMA's application for membership, ANMA believes that CNME prepares minutes of its business meetings in an inaccurate and misleading way, designed to suit CNME's desire to retain the Department's recognition. CNME petition (page 19, paragraph 5), refers to another ANMA chartered in the State of California even though ANMA furnished proof at the May, 1988 meeting, no such corporation existed. ANMA urges the Department to scrutinize carefully the facts underlying all CNME submissions for inaccurate or misleading statements, especially the CNME site visit reports and the background of CNME site visit officials. In a taped recording of the CNME meeting November 4, 1989 at Rippling River, Oregon, Dr. Randall Bradley, JBC site visit chair readily admits the site visit team had no preparation for the site visit to JBC, and no CNME "standards" worksheet was used. This indicates a breakdown in the site visit process as standards are not being met; yet CNME continues accreditation. As the Department is aware, CNME has opposed ANMA's Freedom of Information Act request for CNME site visit reports and CNME minutes discussing those reports; an appeal of the Department's FOIA denial is still pending before Under Secretary Sanders. Appendix 2.

ANALYSIS OF NONCOMPLIANCE WITH THE SECRETARY'S CRITERIA

601.11. Experience

602.11(a). CNME has not demonstrated sufficient experience with respect to a national scope. CNME does not understand their purpose as an accrediting agency. They do not have, nor do they seek, broad base support of the profession. According to Dr. Carlo Calabrese, CNME has held all of their meetings in conjunction with the Northwest Naturopathic Physicians Convention, or the AANP convention, even though they have been invited to participate without cost, in the ANMA annual convention. With very few exceptions, CNME recognizes only graduates of NCNM in Portland, Oregon and John Bastyr College ("JBC") in Seattle, Washington.

602.11(b). CNME has not demonstrated sufficient experience with respect to specific degrees, certificates and programs which would be covered by its recognized accreditation and pre-accreditation activities. CNME displayed a dismal lack of experience in this regard when its president, Carlo Calabrese, sent to a number of notorious diploma mills letters that appear to be solicitations unworthy of any correspondence. Appendix 2A. Without regard to students ability to benefit, and the public's right to competent and safe health care, CNME extended 5 years accreditation to JBC, and candidacy status to NCNM.

602.13. Clarity of purpose, scope and operational information

601.13(a). As described below, CNME does not comply with its own first stated purpose and objective -- "To insure high standards in naturopathic medical education" -- nor with its fifth -- "To assure the educational community, the general public, and other agencies and organizations of the academic credibility of naturopathic educational programs and colleges."

602.13 (b). While CNME has written standards that parrot the Secretary's criteria, it simply has not followed its own standards. For example, CNME does not comply with the standard, found on page 11 of its petition, that students, before graduation, must demonstrate educational achievement appropriate to patient care. Graduates of NCNM have had a high failure rate when taking the Oregon State Board examination. This will be discussed later.

602.13 (d). CNME does not comply with its own standards for revoking the status that it grants a school. As will be addressed later, there is no question that CNME should have revoked NCNM's pre-accreditation status.

602.13 (h). CNME does not comply with its own standards for scheduling review or reconsideration of accreditation. As will be addressed later, it is irresponsible to have given JBC accreditation -- let alone accreditation for five years without review -- given the state of JBC. On Nov. 4th, 1989, CNME meeting Rippling River, OR. Bradley stated, " We are now aware our people do not meet standards but yet we continue to accredit them".

602.13(k). CNME readily admits to its total noncompliance with the requirement that it must have criteria established to measure a potential student's ability to benefit from the education program offered.

602.14. National recognition

602.14 (b). CNME does not comply with the criteria that it be accepted throughout the United States. CNME is, in fact, not accepted by most practitioners.

602.14 (c). CNME does not comply with the criteria that it be accepted throughout the United States by "recognized agencies." Along with our opposition, the American Naturopathic Medical Certification & Accreditation Board, Inc. no longer accepts, and now actively opposes, CNME. At the time of CNME submission, they were not supported by the original Federation of Naturopathic Medical Licensing Boards. CNME asserts in its

petition that its support by AANP represents the support of the largest professional association. This is simply false. AANP consists primarily of students of JBC & NCNM. ANMA represents the largest association of independent professional practitioners, and it vigorously opposes CNME. Appendix 3.

#### 602.15. Resources

CNME has not complied and cannot comply with the criteria regarding resources. For example, CNME's exhibit 50, falsely states that the Oregon Association of Naturopathic Physicians (OANP) paid \$500 in dues in 1989. Moreover, the Ontario College of Naturopathic Medicine (OCNM) has not given CNME funding for several years. Appendix 3.

And yet, the greatest problem surrounding CNME's lack of resources is its potential to destroy the integrity of the process of accrediting schools. One example of the potential harm centers on the role of Bruce Canvasser, ND, a 1977 graduate of NCNM. Astonishingly, he was used as a member of CNME's team visiting JBC in 1986. And yet, since 1978, he has been president of Naturopathic Formulations, Inc. (often called "NF Formulas"), a company making and selling naturopathic products. Because his company has donated thousand of dollars to both NCNM and JBC, as well as supplied significant quantities of products to their clinic pharmacies, his selection by CNME as a site team member with something to gain by having these schools accredited, must

be viewed with much skepticism. His resume is not included in CNME's petition, but ANMA has provided some background on him in Appendix 4.

Due to insufficient financial resources, CNME has been compelled to rely upon individuals whose ties the Department should examine for potential, if not actual, conflicts of interest. CNME Commission on Accreditation Vice-Chair Robin Moore is the president of the Naturopathic Physicians Licensing Board. By her own admission at the Nov. 4th, 1989, CNME meeting, Rippling River, OR., CNME members "are wearing too many hats". CNME's petition claims a multitude of volunteers enabling them to operate on a low budget. This is simply false. Because of little or no funding, CNME has failed to reach out to individuals with excellent educational backgrounds and instead, has been forced to use individuals whose backgrounds are questionable at best, or have a conflict of interest.

James McConkey, ND, praised by CNME for his work in preparing CNME documents, has a very questionable Naturopathic medical education. He is a graduate of Sequoia, a school founded by Joe Hough who sold medical degrees from Sequoia and Freemont College. According to sources, Joe Hough took the 5th amendment, 54 times during California hearings to avoid prosecution. Appendix 5. CNME's petition does not include his resume.

The personnel selected by CNME for on-site evaluation deserve the Department's particular attention -- for example Bruce Canvasser (discussed above), Robert Broadwell and Henry Merritt.

Robert Broadwell's background is particularly interesting. Appendix 6 . Along with Canvasser, Broadwell is listed as an adjunct professor at NCNM from 1987 to 1989. He declared before the Oregon Naturopathic Board of Examiners that he attended the University of Iowa from June 1942 to August 1943; the university's registrar has confirmed that Broadwell attended the school for only one month -- from June to July of 1943. Broadwell declared that he attended Kirksville College of Osteopathy from January, 1948 to June, 1950; the Kirksville registrar confirmed that Broadwell never attended that school. Broadwell apparently did attend American Therapy University (otherwise known as American Non-Allopathic University or Midwestern University) in Arcadia, Missouri; the school has been identified as a "degree mill" by the Department, and the individual who chartered the school subsequently served five years in a penitentiary for selling medical degrees. Likewise, Broadwell served six months. Broadwell also declared to Oregon authorities that he attended Tahoe Colleges, Inc. from January, 1951 to June, 1954, receiving a Doctor of Science degree in 1953; the Nevada Secretary of State has certified the school was not chartered until 1953, two years after Broadwell claimed to have attended. Broadwell is

described by CNME on page 25 of its petition as "widely respected as one of the country's foremost practitioners of naturopathic medicine" but CNME does not include his resume.

The background and qualifications of yet a third CNME site team member, Henry Merritt, demand equal scrutiny. Appendix 7 . CNME listed Merritt as an M.D., N.D., Ph.D. on page 26 of its petition and he has declared to the Oregon Naturopathic Board of Examiners that he received the M.D. degree from Kansas City University, a school notorious for having issued many MD degrees after it closed; Merritt is neither licensed, nor eligible to be licensed, as a medical doctor in any state. He apparently did receive a Ph.D. from Philathea College, which John Bear's Guide to Nontraditional Education described as a "degree mill." He declared in his application to Western States Chiropractic College that he held a Doctor of Veterinarian Medicine degree from McKinley-Roosevelt University, listed as a diploma mill by the United States Office of Education. Merritt was awarded a DC & ND from Western States College in approximately 9 months, even though he listed 2 years on his Oregon license application.

Moreover, a comparison of the Oregon and Western States College applications reveals that Merritt, remarkably, was earning a DVM in Chicago at the same time he was earning an MD in Kansas City. Of course, CNME has not included Henry Merritt's resume with its petition. Appendix 7.

It is either deception or incompetence on the part of CNME to present Merritt to the Department as an MD and to use someone like him on a CNME site visit. This example and others noted above raise serious questions about CNME's credibility as an accrediting agency for naturopathic schools.

602.16. Integrity of process

602.16 (a). Because CNME primarily works with and through individuals closely associated with the two existing institutions in the United States, JBC and NCNM, and has failed to utilize the many reputable naturopathic physicians throughout the country, it does not comply with the criteria that it conduct its own independent analyses and evaluations of data furnished by the institutions. Joseph Pizzorno, for example, has served simultaneously as president of JBC, one of only two U.S. naturopathic colleges, and as president of CNME, the accrediting agency for that naturopathic college. Appendix 8 . The more recent CNME President, Carlo Calabrese, is listed in the 1989 HEP

Higher Education Directory as the head of NCNM at that time.

Appendix 9. Student achievement, as a reflection of institutional performance, is inadequate, and these interlocking relationships are questionable enough to require close examination.

602.16 (b) and (c). CNME unreasonably granted a five-year accreditation to JBC without first insisting upon the establishment of a gross anatomy laboratory; a two or three year period would have shown more responsibility. With respect to NCNM, the institution simply is not worthy of candidate status. During its first review, CNME denied candidate status to NCNM due to its excessive debt and yet subsequently accepted an unqualified audit as evidence of reduced debt, thereby paving the way for a favorable CNME ruling by which NCNM achieved candidate status.

602.16(c). CNME states that its meetings are open, but this is not always the case. When eleven ANMA representatives met with CNME on May 7, 1988, we were asked to excuse ourselves for thirty minutes while CNME members discussed our application. At another CNME meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia, Dr. Kevin Garner agreed to attend as an ANMA representative, but CNME refused to permit him to do so.

602.16 (g). CNME's membership is drawn from graduates of NCNM and JBC, not from the broad naturopathic community. The Department must scrutinize this point carefully, because, regardless of what CNME sets forth as its policy here, conflicts

of interests are inherent. If CNME were intent on responsibly promoting the public interest, it should not have granted NCNM candidate status based upon an unreliable, unqualified audit.

602.17. Focus on educational effectiveness

602.17 (c). CNME does not comply with the criteria regarding educational effectiveness, based upon the low rates of job placements and the poor results on licensing examinations. Excerpts taken from Nebraska legislative transcripts serve to prove a degree of educational incompetence. Appendix 9A.

602.18. Regard for adequate and accurate public disclosure.

602.18(b) CNME does not comply with the criteria regarding adequate and accurate public disclosure as to an institution's educational effectiveness. Last year, virtually every applicant from NCNM did so poorly on the Oregon state examination that the passing standard had to be lowered. Approximately 3 out of 25 from NCNM had passed. The State of Washington will no longer honor reciprocity with respect to the lowered passing standard for this Oregon examination, because Washington officials maintain that the examination was not flawed as declared by OR., but rather reflected the poor achievement of NCNM graduates.

According to Maria Gardipee, State of Washington, Department of Licensing, "the graduates of NCMN are just not meeting minimum competency requirements." The Department should closely examine the documents contained in Appendix 10.

CONCLUSION

The Department's recognition of CNME should be terminated based upon CNME's noncompliance with the Secretary's criteria. ANMA requests an opportunity to oppose CNME's continued recognition at any Department hearing to be held. ANMA stands ready to cooperate fully with the Department in this matter. Any Department official who has any questions or comments about this matter should not hesitate to contact me at (702)796-9067.

Sincerely,



Donald C. Hayhurst, N.M.D., Ph.D.



CHESTER P. YOZWICK, N.D., P.M.D., Ph.D.  
Consulting Healthologist



188 Beechwood Drive  
Youngstown, OH 44512

Hours by appointment  
(216) 782-3145

February  
Three  
1990

Stephen D. Pappas  
Accrediting Agency Evaluation Branch  
Room 3036  
U.S. Department of Education  
7th and D Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Mr. Pappas,

It is with great concern that I write this letter regarding the Council on Naturopathic Medical Education.

My understanding is that the Department of Education will be considering the renewal of the Council on Naturopathic Medical Education as an accrediting body.

I am asking you to carefully review the renewal of this agency. Past history has shown them to discriminate against the majority of the naturopathic profession. They seem to "approve" of only those connected with the American Association of Naturopathic Physicians, whose graduates are solely from the National College of Naturopathic Medicine and/or the John Bastyr College, both located in the Northwest. This represents only a small portion of the naturopathic profession.

They completely ignore the American Naturopathic Medical Association, which incidentally is the largest naturopathic association in the United States. Dr. Donald Hayhurst, president of the ANMA has not been successful in gaining their cooperation.

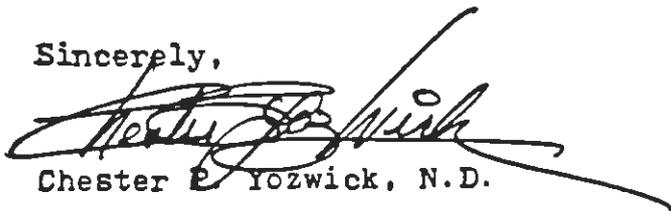
It has been brought to my attention that there are at least two individuals who sit on the CNME board with questionable credentials. Also, there have been several claims that one of the two northwestern schools, previously mentioned has sold degrees. If this is true, CNME is lacking in credibility to be in the position of accrediting that or any school of naturopathy.

Mr. Pappas - continued.

I am a practicing naturopath now for 7 years in Ohio, and I am vehemently opposed to any organization that would promote legislation that would discriminate against the majority of the naturopathic profession. AANP-CNME has been known for encroachment upon individual rights.

Here's hoping you will investigate these submissions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Chester E. Yozwick". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Chester E. Yozwick, N.D.



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

February 7, 1990

Mr. Steve Pappas  
Chief Accrediting Agency Evaluation Branch  
Office of Post Secondary Education  
U. S. Dept. of Education  
Washington, D. C. 20202

Dear Mr. Pappas;

It has been brought to my attention that the CNME (Council of Natureopathic Medical Education) is up for review and renewal in mid March. Please be informed in your process of review that the Connecticut State Board of Natureopathic Examiners relies upon the CNME for review and accreditation of approved schools of Natureopathic Medicine.

Please find enclosed a copy of the Connecticut Statue on Naturopathy which makes formal reference to the CNME. I hope this letter and information are helpful to you in this review process.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert M. Murphy N.D.".

Robert M. Murphy N.D.  
Chairman: Connecticut State  
Board of Natureopathic Examiners

cc: Celia Carroll  
Ct. Board Liason

added provisions that each instance of patient contact or consultation shall constitute a separate offense and failure to renew license in timely manner is not a violation for purposes of section.

sd. 141 C. 288.

CHAPTER 373

NATUREOPATHY

Sec. 20-34. Practice defined. (a) The practice of natureopathy means the science, art and practice of healing by natural methods as recognized by the council of natureopathic medical education and approved by the state board of natureopathic examiners, with the consent of the commissioner, and shall include (1) counseling and (2) the practice of the mechanical and material sciences of healing as follows: The mechanical sciences such as mechanotherapy, articular manipulation, corrective and orthopedic gymnastics, physiotherapy, hydrotherapy, electrotherapy and phototherapy; and the material sciences such as nutrition, dietetics, phytotherapy, treatment by natural substances and external applications.

(b) For purposes of subsection (a), "natural substances" are substances which are not narcotic substances as defined in subdivision (30) of section 21a-240, do not require the written or oral prescription of a licensed practitioner to be dispensed and are only administered orally.

(1949 Rev., S. 4394; P.A. 84-111, S. 1, 2; P.A. 85-613, S. 53, 154.)

History: P.A. 84-111 redefined the practice of natureopathy and added auxiliary definition of "natural substances"; P.A. 85-613 made technical change.

To engage in natureopathy one must hold oneself out as a natureopath either by a series of acts or by advertising as such. 130 C. 544.

Cited. 3 CA 707.

Sec. 20-35. Examining board. The state board of natureopathic examiners shall continue to consist of three members, two of whom shall be practicing natureopathic physicians of this state and one of whom shall be a public member. The governor shall appoint the members of said board subject to the provisions of section 4-9a. Said board shall meet at least once during each calendar quarter and at such other times as the chairman deems necessary. Special meetings shall be held on the request of a majority of the board after notice in accordance with the provisions of section 1-21. Members shall not be compensated for their services but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. Any member who fails to attend three consecutive meetings or who fails to attend fifty per cent of all meetings held during any calendar year shall be deemed to have resigned from office. Minutes of all meetings shall be recorded by the board. No member shall participate in the affairs of the board during the pendency of any disciplinary proceedings by the board against such member. No professional member shall be an elected or appointed officer of a professional society of natureopathic physicians or have been such an officer during the year immediately preceding his appointment. Said board shall (1) hear and decide matters concerning suspension or revocation of licensure, (2) adjudicate complaints against practitioners and (3) impose sanctions where appropriate.

(1949 Rev., S. 4388; P.A. 77-614, S. 367, 610; P.A. 80-484, S. 170, 174, 176; P.A. 81-471, S. 14, 71.)

History: P.A. 77-614 changed composition of board from three natureopathic physicians to two physicians and one public member and simplified statement of governor's appointment powers, deleting reference to specific date of appointment and length of term; P.A. 80-484 deleted requirement that physician members have practiced continuously in state for three years.

Ch. made a duties. Sec Sec Sec Sec repea (192 175, 1 Sec of na licen and c health the c natur Appli such appli gradu acad study in a comu those natu Of n servi title Said who The Any Dep ber. com os.

2/26/90

Stephen Pappas  
Accrediting Agency Evaluation Branch, Room 3036  
U.S. Department of Education  
7th and 'D' Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Mr. Pappas:

I am a 1984 graduate of National College of Naturopathic Medicine (NCNM) in Portland, and, while I fervently wish that the College and the Council on Naturopathic Medical Education could live up to the dreams and the philosophical tenets they espouse, there are many reasons why that is unlikely to occur.

I'll make no effort to keep this letter brief, because I believe the issues involved are too important, and I hope to give you a complete and accurate account of my experience with the College. I think it also will become clear to you why I believe that, although mine is probably a minority opinion among naturopathic ranks, I'm one of the few recent attendees at NCNM who will give you an accurate appraisal of that institution's ability to educate responsible physicians.

In 1979, having completed my pre-medical education at California Polytechnic State University (San Luis Obispo), majoring in Chemistry, and also having decided, after working in a community hospital there, that I would not pursue an M.D. degree, I applied to NCNM for admission.

I was motivated to attend NCNM after having read an article, "Naturopathic Medicine," by Bill Tribe, in the Berkeley Holistic Health Handbook. I enclose a photocopy for your review; I'm sure that you will agree that the ideals and philosophy expressed there are noble and appealing, especially to a young person who's recently become disillusioned with conventional medicine.

I was elated when I was accepted for admission to NCNM in the Spring of 1979. I later learned that few applicants were turned away, and that my 3.73 GPA in Chemistry and good performance on the Medical College Admissions Test made me a very unusual enrollee for the College.

During my first year of attendance at NCNM, although the College's physical plant was abysmal, and some of my instructors were less-than-skillful lecturers, I perceived a healthy emphasis on academic achievement. The class of 1984 was taught some anatomy, physiology, histology and biochemistry. My \$1300/term tuition payments were not unjustifiable.

I knew, at the time that I was admitted to NCNM, that the college was going to be moved. But no final decision had been made about where the new campus was going to be. By the end of the 1980-81 academic year, the administration had decided to purchase an abandoned school in the Linnton area, north of Portland.

Prior to the start of the 1981-2 academic year, I received notification that the College was, instead, purchasing the old Portland Christian High School in SE Portland, and extensive remodeling was underway to render the building

suitable for our purposes. At the time, I thought, "Didn't the College already put a substantial down payment on the Linnton School?" They had.

During my second and third years at NCNM, the College's financial problems became increasingly apparent. The College's imprudent chief financial officer, Greg McKown, was dismissed, and the College's Board of Trustees fired Dr. Janet Harris from the position of President at the College. Dr. Harris was an intelligent and responsible educator of unquestionable integrity, and the majority of students protested her dismissal. I made an unsuccessful attempt to marshal support for a student "strike," advocating refusal to pay tuition until we could be assured that our tuition payments would be used, to some reasonable extent, for educational expenses, rather than to pay off building contractors who had suspended work in the middle of the remodeling. I asked that the student body be provided with detailed financial information, and be allowed to make informed decisions about whether we wanted to remain in attendance, paying \$1600/term at NCNM, or organize a new college, leaving the Board to deal with their problems. The Board would not provide that information in written form. I was told verbally that "we" had liabilities of several hundreds of thousands of dollars, that the Linnton property was being foreclosed, and that NCNM was losing \$60,000 equity on that investment.

The student body, as a whole, was not savvy enough to understand the way in which financial pressure was causing the Board to act against the interests of the students. Naturopathic students tend to be more idealistic than average; their minds are easily clouded by considerations of tradition and philosophical rhetoric. NCNM has existed, in various incarnations, since 1955. Consider also the fact that most of the students were intent on getting their degrees at any cost, and you'll understand the high level of resistance that I encountered when I suggested that perhaps NCNM should be scrapped because it was not a viable educational institution.

During the period from 1982-84, NCNM was essentially bankrupt; a Portland CPA, Jackie Babicky, played an important part in financially administering the school. Although Ms. Babicky would not answer directly when I probed about whether she represented NCNM or the creditors, she operated as if she had either the creditors' interests or liability concerns for NCNM Board members uppermost in her mind. She certainly was not concerned about the College's delivery of quality education during that period. During my last two and a half years at NCNM, there was little emphasis on education.

Decisions regarding who would be teaching classes from one term to the next were made based more upon who happened to be languishing in the halls of NCNM, willing to be there for the hourly fee offered, rather than upon whether the person was knowledgeable, a competent lecturer, or any other meaningful criterion. I was "taught" nutrition, public health and microbiology by a fellow student, Joel Wallach, supposedly a veterinarian, whose lack of preparation for teaching any of those classes was woefully apparent. I was taught Pharmacology by fellow-student Robert Sklovsky, a Pharm.D. who had not practiced pharmacy to any appreciable extent; he'd supposedly earned his degree at the University of Hawaii. I have no evidence that his credentials were inauthentic, but Dr. Sklovsky lacked basic knowledge of pharmacology and biochemistry. Classes in endocrinology and otorhinolaryngology were taught to the class of 1984 by members of the class of 1983...from their class notes.

Ironically, concerns about accreditation actually contributed to the poor quality of education. Knowledgeable individuals were available to teach some of the above classes, but because other individuals possessed doctoral degrees which "looked good," students were forced to tolerate inferior, and even impaired, instructors. For example, Pharmacognosy, which deals with the pharmacology of natural substances, was taught by a fellow who appeared to have disabling dependencies on some of the substances about which he spoke. The woman who taught microbiology and genetics to previous NCNM classes was unavailable to teach our class because her hallucinations and flight-of-ideas symptomatology rendered her completely incapable of functioning. At one point, she failed to report to teach her class; several days later, two young men brought her to the College. They had picked her up hitch-hiking, and had extracted enough information from her garbled speech to drive her to NCNM.

Some of the people teaching and making administrative decisions were doing their best to be responsible, but, frankly, that is even more frightening than thinking that they were deliberately defrauding the students. I graduated with little confidence in my preparation to practice medicine; most of my knowledge of clinical medicine was gained outside the walls of NCNM. There are dozens of N.D.s who graduated between 1983-87 who don't realize how poorly-equipped they are to practice. I limit my assessment to 1983-87 because those are the classes that I know from first-hand observation were short-changed in their educations. I have almost no knowledge of NCNM activities since I graduated.

I took licensure examinations with the rest of my class in the Summer of 1984. The exams were obviously written piecemeal by practicing N.D.s, and bore only occasional chance resemblances to our curricula. Questions on the exam ranged from irrelevant statistical questions to details about therapeutic modalities of highly-questionable effectiveness and safety. Our class went away from the exams with the impression that, certainly, all of us would fail to be licensed. The Oregon Board of Naturopathic Examiners (OBNE), however, did some "throwing out" of "bad" questions. I don't remember whether the process was explained to us completely, but I think that an effort was made to disregard questions which were missed by many of the examinees. Even after the manipulation of our tests, all but one examinee had to re-take at least one test.

The one exam I was forced to repeat was orthopedics and neurology. I knew that I had missed more questions on other exams, (pediatrics, for example), than on the ortho/neuro test. However, I believe the results were skewed because I was likely to have missed the "flaky" questions my colleagues probably answered correctly, while my colleagues probably missed many of the conventional medicine questions that I was more likely to answer correctly...the "throwing out" of "most-missed" questions made a bad exam even worse. I mention the licensing process only to illustrate that the OBNE could not be relied upon, in 1984, to provide a reliable yardstick for measuring NCNM's educational effectiveness.

Attendance at NCNM was an unpleasant chapter in my life, a waste of time and money. Why did I stay until graduation? I believed in the fundamental philosophy, I kept hoping things would get better, that one day I'd find hard evidence to support some of the anecdotal information that was being spread haphazardly around the NCNM "community." I kept hoping that N.D.s would enjoy more respectability and legal recognition by the time I graduated, and that the incidences of irresponsible practices by N.D.s were declining, that perhaps my

perception of the situation was inaccurate, and that my fellow students were right when they said, "Oh, Merry, you're just SO NEGATIVE...stop being such a VICTIM...", that my husband was right in saying, "You've come this far - you'll regret it if you quit now."

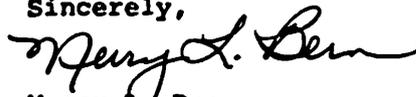
Since graduating and becoming licensed, I have elected not to practice naturopathic medicine. In order to augment my professional credibility, I completed an Associate Degree in Nursing at Portland Community College. I have worked as a registered nurse, but now am occupied in a retail computer software business.

I have no personal vendettas in operation and no financial considerations which relate to CNME's recognition or non-recognition as an accrediting agency. Dr. Donald Hayhurst, after I telephoned him to inform him that I believed that his concerns were valid, encouraged me to write to you. While I hope that your agency will act in a manner which foster the development of a responsible accrediting agency for naturopathic educational institutions, I urge caution in making decisions about who will bestow such accreditation. I want the profession to survive and grow, but I don't have any confidence that the quality of education has improved or will improve so long as the institutions are financially and ethically impoverished.

The naturopathic profession is replete with intelligent, articulate and sincere individuals who believe that they are furthering a noble cause. There are also some mediocre individuals who have chosen to dedicate their lives to resuscitating decayed, non-viable institutions. As I mentioned above, I have not been involved in NCNM activities since my graduation; it is possible that the College has made some meaningful changes in the interim, but some of the individuals in leadership positions are the same individuals who allowed the classes of '83 - '87 to be defrauded. People charged with evaluating the quality of naturopathic education should be capable of making informed, objective assessments. The interests of students and their future patients, rather than the survival of a corrupt institution, should be the CNME's primary concern.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any assistance to you.

Sincerely,



Merry L. Bern  
23601 Franquette Dr.  
Amity, OR 97101  
(503)835-6661



*Asociación de Naturópatas de P.R.*

*P.O.Box 1810, San Juan, P.R. 00903, Tel. 798 - 4640*

February 14, 1990

Dr. Stephen D. Pappas, Ph.D.  
Chief  
Accrediting Agency Evaluation Branch  
Room 3036  
U.S. Department of Education  
7th and D Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20202

Re: Council on Naturopathic Medical  
Education 1989 Petition for Renewal  
of Recognition by the U.S. Department  
of Education

Dear Dr. Pappas:

The Board of Directors of the Puerto Rico Naturopathic Medical Association ("PRNMA") in representation of its sixty (60) members passed unanimously a resolution on February 5, 1990 opposing the Council on Naturopathic Medical Education ("CNME") 1989 Petition for Renewal of Recognition by the U.S. Department of Education ("the Department") unless CNME grants equal membership to the American Naturopathic Medical Association - Oregon ("ANMA") and its state and territory affiliates, in the CNME Commission on Accreditation. Renewal of CNME's recognition should be denied based upon its failure to comply with the criteria set forth in 34CF.R. 602 for Recognition of Accrediting Agencies.

PRNMA BACKGROUND

PRNMA, founded and chartered in 1981 in Puerto Rico, is the major naturopathic organization in Puerto Rico. Please refer to Appendix I (first two paragraphs) for more information on PRNMA. PRNMA officially requested membership as a CNME Commission on Accreditation member on June 2, 1988 (see Appendix II) with additional information on July 18, 1988 (see Appendix III).

PRNMA'S OPPOSITION TO CNME'S CONTINUED RECOGNITION

PRNMA supports educational excellence and high professional standards for all naturopaths. PRNMA also supports the CNME concept as found in its original charter and By-Laws. CNME's Article of Incorporation in its Article III states that its purposes are to advocate high standards and

establish criteria of institutional excellence in naturopathic medical colleges, publish a list of naturopathic medical colleges conforming to its policies, and engage in those organizational activities which allow it to pursue its primary goals.

PRNMA does not support the CNME professional members and their acts since 1985 because they are totally lacking in consistency, integrity, credibility, qualifications and professionalism. All of these traits are necessary if CNME is to satisfy the Department's recognition criteria. The purpose of the Department's criteria is to protect students of naturopathy and the public in general. Specifically, we provide the following highlights supporting our opposition:

- I. The American Association of Naturopathic Physicians ("AANP") took over CNME in 1985. All CNME members except two public members are also members of AANP since 1985 and almost all members of AANP are graduates of two naturopathic colleges, John Bastyr College and the National College. It is in 1985 when supposedly the CNME Articles of Incorporation are changed to eliminate inefficient procedures and potentially conflicting organizational structure, establish a firmer financial base, and increase membership.
- II. - There is evidence available that CNME, while claiming credibility, has used individuals with questionable academic credentials in their activities.
- III. CNME has decided to have as professional members only a small portion of the naturopathic profession. It, allows only professional members who are graduates from the northwest area (John Bastyr College and National College).
- IV. CNME has openly discriminated against the majority of the profession by selecting only those individuals from AANP to be involved with CNME.
- V. There is ample testimony that CNME changed and altered the minutes of their May 7, 1988 meeting.
- VI. PRNMA officialy requested membership as a CNME Commission on Accreditation member on June 2, 1988 (see Appendix II) with additional information on July 18, 1988 (see Appendix III), and August 31, 1988 (see Appendix IV). CNME recognized on August 5, 1988 (see Appendix V) PRNMA's petition for membership, placed the petition on the agenda for their September 1988 meeting, requested a translation from Spanish into English of all the documentation submitted with twelve copies and requested meeting minutes, budgets, etc... See also CNME's letter dated September 2, 1988 (Appendix VI) to PRNMA. Subsequently CNME in a letter dated September 12, 1988 (see Appendix.VIII) - PRNMA designating Dr. Patrick Ranch as it representative to CNME's September 24, 1988 meeting) stating that PRNMA is then (September 12,1988) requesting membership to CNME; that in a September 24, 1988 meeting the CNME formally approved the "CNME Standards and

Application Procedures" which PRNMA will need to follow; that CNME must receive PRNMA's application sixty (60) days prior to CNME's next regularly scheduled meeting between May 18 and 21, 1989 at the Northwest Naturopathic Conference (March 18, 1989 deadline); that CNME did receive material from PRNMA along with letter requesting membership in CNME; and that the cost of translation will be added to PRNMA's application. Let us simplify and summarize what has transpired between PRNMA and CNME between June 2, 1988 and November 16, 1988:

- A. August 5, 1988 CNME recognizes PRNMA's petition for membership dated June 2, 1988.
- B. CNME places PRNMA's petition on the agenda for their September 24, 1988 meeting. CNME does not advise PRNMA the results of its petition in writing as discussed at that meeting but instead advises PRNMA in a November 16, 1988 letter the following:
  - 1) PRNMA requested membership on September 12, 1988 and not June 2, 1980.
  - 2) PRNMA must submit another application for membership complying with "CNME Standards and Application Procedures" no later than March 18, 1988 in English to be supposedly included in the agenda at the CNME meeting between May 18 - 21, 1989. There was a March 18, 1989 deadline for this submission.

First, CNME contradicts itself by recognizing PRNMA's petition and placing it on its agenda for a meeting and later requesting that another petition be submitted to be considered at another meeting. Second, all present CNME organization did not comply with any "CNME Standards and Applications Procedures" to become members because they did not exist, nor did they exist when PRNMA submitted its application. Nevertheless, CNME is applying non-existent standards and applications procedures to PRNMA (see Appendix V) but later changes its posture (see Appendix VII) to cover up and make PRNMA comply with the new standards and applications procedures. This is an obvious Constitutional violation to PRNMA's rights to due process and an outrageous discrimination and violation of its Constitutional Civil Rights. It is interesting to note that CNME only accepts a one way street when CNME objected the release of its annual site visit reports as well as the minutes in which these reports are discussed (see Appendix IX) while on the other hand requesting minutes, budgets, etc. from PRNMA (see Appendix V). Third, the U.S. Constitution, nor any federal statute, nor the Oregon or Washington D.C. Constitution or any statute, nor the CNME Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, and the Standards

and Applications Procedures" establish English as the official language. Spanish is the native language of Puerto Rico and therefore most of PRNMA's official documents are in Spanish and recognized by the three branches of the Puerto Rican government. CNME's request that PRNMA translate its documentation from Spanish to English is an unreasonable economic burden on PRNMA.

CNME has amended its By-Laws in regards to the annual audit of its financial records by an independent certified public accountant. It can now cover up to three years because of the small size of its budget (Note: CNME states in their petition to the Department under 602.15 Resources that it is considering applying for membership in the Council of Postsecondary Accreditation at a cost of about \$20,000.). CNME alleviates its economic burden while imposing an unnecessary one on PRNMA by requesting a translation. Again this is a violation of PRNMA's Constitutional due process, freedom of speech, Civil Rights and is unduly discriminatory.

VII. The Department's National Advisory Committee on Accreditation and Institutional Eligibility (NACAIE) requested a status report from CNME at their December 12, 1988 meeting regarding the membership application from PRNMA and ANMA when CNME was to submit their 1989 petition for renewal of recognition. We have not been advised of any action of record in this matter and therefore CNME is not complying with this request. Please refer to NACAIE's minutes and tapes of this meeting to find this request.

#### NON COMPLIANCE WITH THE SECRETARY'S CRITERIA

##### 602.14 National Recognition

602.14(b) CNME does not have acceptance and support of at least over two hundred (200) members of ANMA (see their submission) and PRNMA.

##### 602.16 Integrity of Process

602.16(g) CNME has encouraged and promoted appointing only professional Commission on Accreditation members from AANP and/or its state affiliates and graduates of John Bastyr College and National College. CNME is also in violation of Article I Section 3 (a) and (c) of its By-Laws concerning PRNMA's and ANMA's membership applications and there is a violation of Article I Section 3(e) of its By-Laws since the majority of its professional members hold a degree from National College.

##### 602.17 Focus on Educational Effectiveness

602.17(c) A high percentage of John Bastyr College and National College graduates have failed various state licensing exams during the past five years.

602.18 Regard for Adequate and Accurate Public Disclosure

602.18(b) Approximately twenty-two(22) out of twenty-five (25) graduates from National College passed a recent Oregon state licensing exam.

CONCLUSION

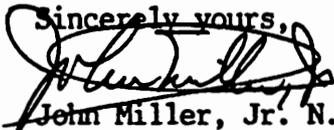
The Department should consider adopting one of the following:

- I. Approve a two (2) year renewal of recognition of CNME conditioned on CNME's immediate acceptance of equal number of representatives from both ANMA and AANP and their state and territory affiliates as CNME members. These two organizations can contribute equally to CNME's purpose and its compliance with the Secretary's criteria.  
Or
- II. Approve a one (1) year renewal of recognition of CNME conditioned on all present CNME member organizations resigning immediately from CNME's Commission on Accreditation and applying again for membership along with PRNMA and other state and territory organizations under the same and equal standards and applications procedures recommended by the Department. Or
- III. The Department's recognition of CNME's be terminated immediately based upon CNME's non full compliance with the Secretary's criteria since 1987.

PRNMA also authorizes the ANMA to represent it in expanding and presenting our position as contained herein at any Department hearing to be held on this subject.

I am available at (809) 761-2652 to answer any questions or receive comments about this matter.

Sincerely yours,



John Miller, Jr. N.M.D., J.D.  
President

cc: Dr. Donald C. Hayhurst  
President  
ANMA  
P.O.Box 19221  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89132

Attachments (9)



MAR 7 1990

Lucile Nye Schober, N.M.D.  
11806 Elwin Road  
Moorpark, CA. 93021

March 1, 1990

Stephen D. Pappas,  
Accrediting Agency Evaluation Branch  
Room 3036  
U.S. Department of Education  
7th and D Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20202

Dear Mr. Pappas,

As secretary to the California Society of Naturopathic Physicians, I wish to join with Dr. Hayhurst in opposing the Council on Naturopathic Medical Education (CNME). Even though there are other naturopathic groups in California, I believe our society represents the largest number of Physicians. At this time we are not allowed to practice Naturopathy in CA., however, we are working toward a new Naturopathic act.

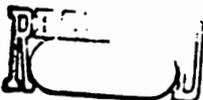
Since the CNME fails to recognize the whole profession, we would not want the State of California to use them as an accrediting agency.

Sincerely,

  
Lucile Nye Schober, N.M.D.  
Secretary

LNS/ee

JOHN WAIMEE  
GOVERNOR



ROBERT A. ALM  
DIRECTOR

NOE NOE TOM  
LICENSING ADMINISTRATOR

BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN NATUROPATHY

STATE OF HAWAII  
PROFESSIONAL & VOCATIONAL LICENSING DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
P. O. BOX 3469  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801

February 22, 1990

Steve Pappas, Chief  
Accrediting Agency Evaluation  
Branch  
Office of Post-Secondary  
Education  
Dept. of Education  
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Mr. Pappas:

The Hawaii Board of Examiners in Naturopathy has come to rely on the Council of Naturopathic Medical Education (CNME) as its accrediting body.

While we may accept schools that have been accredited by a Regional Association, CNME is a professional accrediting body which examines a school's program.

We find that there is a need for the type of services provided by a professional accrediting body and ask that the Department of Education continue to recognize CNME.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

*C. I. Cabral*

---

(Ms.) CONSTANCE I. CABRAL  
Executive Secretary

CIC: fk

G.A.M. NUTRITIONAL DIAGNOSTIC CENTER  
1000 RYLAND SUITE 102  
RENO, NV 89502

2/26/90

February 26, 1990

Mr. Stephen D. Pappas, Chief  
Accrediting Agency Evaluation Branch  
Room 3036  
U. S. Department of Education  
7th and D Streets S.W.  
Washington, D.C., 20202

Dear Mr. Pappas,

I wish to express my opposition to the Council of Naturopathic Medical Education (C.N.M.E.). As President of the Nevada Naturopathic Medical Association, I find the C.N.M.E. inadequate in their ability to accredit schools and represent the profession in any capacity. The C.N.M.E. has discriminated against Nevada and several other states.

I have been aware of some of the problems since 1987, when I attended a seminar presented by the American Association of Naturopathic Physicians. At this seminar, both Dr. Golinsky and myself were very rudely treated, and I began to see the obvious alliance between the C.N.M.E. and the A.A.N.P.

I sincerely trust this entire matter will be most carefully reviewed. It is my desire that the C.N.M.E. be dissolved.

Sincerely,



Vera J. Allison, N.M.D.  
1000 Ryland Suite 102  
Reno, NV 89502

VJA/sm

James Sythe N.M.D.  
2055 S. Boise, Ave.  
Boise, Idaho 83704

Stephen D. Pappas  
Chief  
Accrediting Agency Evaluation Branch  
Room 3036  
U.S. Department of Education  
7th and D Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20202

RE: Council on Naturopathic Medicine ( CNME)

Dear Mr. Pappas,

As a professional member of both the Idaho Association of Naturopathic Physicians, and the American Naturopathic Medical Association, I wish to express my opposition to the re-certification of the CNME.

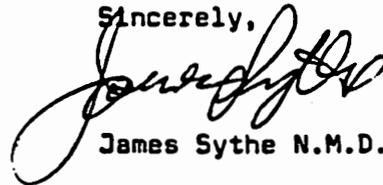
In May 1988, I attended a CNME meeting in Portland, OR. At this meeting CNME voted to accept the ANMA as supporting member. When the minutes came out much later, many things were not accurately recorded, including our membership.

The CNME has discriminated against Naturopaths in Idaho. Enclosed is a letter from the office of the Idaho Attorney General, stating the practice of naturopathy is legal in Idaho, contrary to CNME assertion. (Exhibit A)

Also enclosed is material presented by Idaho Attorney Stanley Crowe to the National Association. (Exhibit B), as well as other information about Dr. Ted H. Ketterman (Exhibit C), and individual who has expressed support for CNME. According to Crowe, Ketterman has made several false claims, as well as derogatory remarks about the U.S. Dept. of Education. All indications are, this man does not hold legitimate medical credentials of any kind. I include this material so you may see the type of information the Doctor's in this profession must deal with.

I strongly believe the CNME should not be the accrediting body for Naturopathy.

Sincerely,



James Sythe N.M.D.

JS/nr

Enc.

The following information is provided as a supplement to the American Naturopathic Medical Association's (ANMA) submission to the United States Department of Education (the Department) in opposition to the renewal of Council on Naturopathic Medical Education's (CNME) certification.

While the ANMA believes its original petition presents sufficient evidence to deny CNME's petition for renewal, the following information is submitted as further evidence for denial.

602.13(h) Page 14, of CNME's petition, refers to "Bastyr College of Natural Health Sciences" in Seattle, WA. as one of two institutions presently holding status with CNME. Where is the school with this name? Is this an attempt to mislead or confuse the Department, and the public?

602.16 INTEGRITY OF PROCESS

(1) M.W. Loftin, a past President of CNME, reported on resume (CNME Exhibit 53) 36 months attendance, from 1936 - 1939, at Nashville College of Naturopathy. The Florida report, Appendix 11, page 45, reported the school granted degrees after completion of a single lecture. Indictments and convictions occurred. M.W. Loftin resume (Appendix 12)

(2) CNME's very foundation was fraught with problems. One member of the original Board of Directors, Cyrus Maxfield, served two prison terms - one for the death of a male patient, another for performing illegal abortions, as well as dispensing hard drugs. According to sources he is presently out on parole, living in the state of Washington.

(3) Florida report (Appendix 11), Page 42, refers to "Doctor of Medicine degree" from Kansas City University such as held by Henry Merritt, issued in Missouri as displayed in original submission (Appendix 7).

In the case of Cyrus Maxfield, the ANMA realizes that charges are altered and/or reduced, plea bargaining occurs & time served may have been for a lesser charge.

(4) Some CNME officials have shown poor conduct, if not a breach of trust by submitting false information on resumes, or medical applications. (Appendix 12) Jeff Klass-Oregon Board application, indicates 3 years attendance at Berkley College of Music. The registrar's office verified attendance for only 9 months.

(5) On September 24, 1989, at CNME meeting held in Missoula, Montana, the entire council and others attending the meeting, were confronted regarding the selling of degrees for \$7500 at National College of Naturopathic Medicine (NCNM). CNME President, Dr. Carlo Calabrese acknowledged this occurred before Dr. Neeley became President. Dr. Neeley became President in June 1985. CNME members graduating from NCNM, received their degrees prior to Dr. Neeley.

**602.17 (a) (b) (c) FOCUS ON EDUCATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS**

See Merry Bern letter, former student and graduate of NCNM. (Appendix 12A).

**COUNCIL ON NATUROPATHIC MEDICAL EDUCATION**

**18726 56th Avenue  
Seattle, Washington 98155  
(206) 485-2063**

**Cecil Baxter, Ph. D., Executive Director**

**Response to the submission of the American  
Naturopathic Medical Association opposing the Council's  
continued Recognition**

**February 28, 1990**

## **Council on Naturopathic Medical Education**

### **Response to the American Naturopathic Medical Association's submission in opposition to the Council's continued Recognition**

**February 28, 1990**

The present document is the response of the Council on Naturopathic Medical Education (CNME) to the brief submitted to the Department of Education by the American Naturopathic Medical Association (ANMA). Because there are many discrepancies and omissions in the brief, we will respond to the text page by page along with its accompanying documentation. Though the narrative may be somewhat detailed, we ask the Committee's indulgence of our effort to shed light on a complex situation. In the course of this response, we will attempt to provide some background to the opposition of the ANMA to continued recognition of the Council. We will not necessarily respond to allegations and opinions that the ANMA presents without accompanying documentation or rationale.

We believe that the profession holds immense potential for health care if the public is protected. The need for a recognized accrediting agency is so great and Council efforts so successful that, in a very few years, we have gained the support of all naturopathic licensing boards, all eligible schools, and all associations of licensed naturopathic physicians. We have only been Recognized for two years but we have established a track record of appropriate maturation. While we believe that we are in compliance with all of the Department of Education's Criteria for Recognition, we take our failings seriously and act to correct them.

Headings, page numbers and criteria numbers within the text here refer to those of the ANMA submission. In this response to the ANMA submission, the Committee will find a history of the ANMA (pages 1 to 2), relations between the ANMA and the CNME before the ANMA applied for a seat on the Council (page 3), relations during the application process (pages 4 to 7), a summation of the CNME position on the ANMA (page 8), response to charges on site visitors' credentials (13 to 16), credentials of ANMA officers (16 to 17), and a list of exhibits of supporting documents (page 20).

#### **Background on ANMA and CNME**

page 2, paragraph 1, sentence 2.

Dr. Hayhurst indicates that no second organization known as the American Naturopathic Medical Association exists as was stated in the CNME Petition for Renewal of Recognition of June 12, 1989. Correspondence between Dr. John Minasian, who wrote that he was the President of the ANMA, and the CNME in 1988 indicates otherwise (Exhibit 1-1 and 1-6), and further, that Drs. Hayhurst and Minasian were in contention over the name of the organization (Exhibit 1-4 and 1-5.

**Exhibit 4). Hayhurst, while dismissing the legitimacy of the other ANMA, acknowledges this conflict in a letter to the CNME in 1988 (Exhibit 4).**

**Page 2, paragraph 1, sentence 4.**

**The ANMA was founded in 1982 in Portland, Oregon. As the CNME later learned, how its control passed into the hands of Dr. Hayhurst is somewhat more involved than is indicated in this one sentence. The first convention of the ANMA was held January 15 and 16, 1983 with Dr. Bernard Steuber as President. At that meeting, a Board of Directors, including Hayhurst, was elected and Articles of Incorporation were developed. The Articles (Exhibit 2) were finalized, signed by three members of the Board, Steuber, Hayhurst, and Richard Thurmer, who were to be the incorporators, and notarized on February 28, 1983. These Articles listed the original nine directors and include the provision that general voting members of the Association be "only Naturopathic Medical Physicians licensed to practice in any state (Sixth Article, Exhibit 2-2)."**

**However, the Association was not incorporated under these Articles. Unknown to most members of the Association, including the Board of Directors, Hayhurst incorporated the ANMA in July, 1983 under Articles notarized on April 25, 1983 (Exhibit 3). The incorporators, except for Hayhurst, were not members of the Board of Directors elected at the February meeting. There are no directors listed in the Hayhurst incorporation documents. The Articles under which Hayhurst incorporated the ANMA say that general voting members may include, in addition to licensed naturopathic physicians, those "recognized as lawfully practicing in any state (Article F., Exhibit 3-2)." This is an issue that is extremely problematic because, given that naturopathy is unregulated in most states, some persons purporting to be naturopathic physicians are practicing "lawfully" with no formal training at all. This is the case, for example, in Idaho, where one simply registers with the State as a naturopath and pays a business tax regardless of training. The "lawfully practicing" qualifier would raise questions with the CNME five years later.**

**In a letter sent to the CNME in 1988, Hayhurst relates a history of the ANMA incorporation and subsequent events (Exhibit 4). He indicates that he "put out a letter notifying people of the new corporation," but we have been unable to identify any individuals who received that letter. Hayhurst has to date been unwilling or unable to provide evidence of any meetings of the ANMA taking place between January, 1983 and September, 1988 when he announced the "5th Annual Convention" in Reno, Nevada. He has apparently acted as both president and treasurer ever since his incorporation of the organization.**

**James Sensenig, N.D., one of the original elected directors of the ANMA, became involved in the formation of a new national professional group, the American Association of Naturopathic Physicians (AANP) in 1985, because of the perception that the ANMA had failed to garner the support of the licensed profession and had ceased operations. The organizers of the AANP asked Dr. Bernard Steuber, the president of the ANMA elected at the meeting of January, 1983, to sit on the original AANP Board of Directors as a demonstration of the solidarity of the profession. Dr. Steuber accepted that role. In addition, Dr. Irv Miller, last president of the National**

Association of Naturopathic Physicians (NANP), also accepted a position on the AANP Board. The NANP was the largest and most active national association of the 1970's and is the organization which initiated the CNME in 1978. The AANP, with Steuber and two other former Board members of the ANMA on its Board, stimulated the reorganization of the Council on Naturopathic Medical Education.

Page 2, paragraph 2, sentence 1.

In December of 1985, the CNME was reorganized as indicated in its Petition. Hayhurst asserts that we were doing this without communicating with the ANMA. Though we had written in 1986 to all state and national naturopathic associations for which we had addresses (see 23 letters in Exhibit 49 in Petition for Initial Recognition, February, 1987) soliciting their membership and inviting comments on our standards, we were unaware that the ANMA was still in existence and that Hayhurst now claimed to be its president.

In November, 1986, we had contacted Dr. R. M. Finley, head of a then inactive agency known as the American Naturopathic Medical Certification and Accreditation Board, Inc. (ANMC&AB, Inc) for his support of our Petition. The CNME got the support of the ANMC&AB, Inc. (Exhibit 13-1 and 13-2), but Finley, who is now a vice-president of the ANMA, gave no indication at that time that the ANMA was in existence. This corporation has, as a part of its mission, the certification of the credentials of individual practitioners as well as the accreditation of schools. We later learned that Hayhurst has become its president and treasurer (Exhibit 13-3) and has been its registered agent since April 12, 1986 (Exhibit 13-4). Thus, it is likely that Hayhurst knew of our activities but made no attempt to inform us of his interest.

We continued to be unaware of the ANMA until we received word from the Department of Education preceding the hearing for our Petition for Initial Recognition in 1987 that the ANMA had lodged a complaint against the Council for failing to communicate with them. We immediately opened a dialogue with the ANMA and Hayhurst subsequently declared support for our standards and activities. The ANMA, however, did not communicate its interest in our activities to the CNME until a phone call was placed by Calabrese to Hayhurst in May, 1987 to investigate the basis of the complaint.

Page 2, paragraph 2, sentence 2.

While Hayhurst characterized the ANMA as "one of the nation's largest naturopathic organizations," it is unlikely that, in early 1987 when he first communicated with the Department, that his organization had more than a handful of members, especially among licensed naturopathic physicians. Certainly the reorganizers of the CNME, many of whom were very active in professional affairs, would have known of ANMA activities had it been otherwise. The bulk of the membership in the list he provided in 1988 joined as a result of communications such as that presented in Exhibit 9, distributed in early 1987, in which the CNME is mentioned prominently and perhaps inappropriately. He tells potential members that joining the ANMA before the organization's acceptance by the CNME would put to rest the issue of "old schools." Presumably, this meant that the educational

credentials of ANMA members would be somehow validated by virtue of CNME acceptance of the the ANMA application. Hayhurst also told prospective members that 40% of initial ANMA membership fees (\$100 of \$250 fees per regular member) would be presented to the CNME. This was done without the knowledge of the CNME. Though the sum collected under this assertion apparently amounted to \$12,750 (calculated on the basis of the submitted membership list), his board reneged on the promise in his response (Exhibit 8-2), instead promising to pay the normal CNME dues of \$10 per member or a total of \$1440. The CNME received a check for \$1440 but payment was stopped before it was deposited.

Page 2, paragraph 2, sentence 4.

Hayhurst implies that he would not have supported the CNME had he known of the participation of James McConkey and the position held by current CNME president Carlo Calabrese with National College of Naturopathic Medicine. Hayhurst's repudiation of McConkey is unexpected as McConkey has served as the Vice President of the Nevada Naturopathic Medical Association of which Hayhurst is President and Hayhurst gave him a warm introduction at the January, 1983 meeting of the ANMA. That Calabrese was "deeply involved" with National College of Naturopathic Medicine (NCNM) as its Clinic Director should come as no surprise as he has been that institution's representative to the CNME for four years. Institutional representatives are required to be members of their school's administration. To avoid conflicts of interest, they take no part in the deliberations of the Commission on Accreditation, the CNME body which evaluates institutions, though they do participate in standards-setting and policy-making. Hayhurst placed several phone calls to Calabrese's office at National College in 1987 and 1988 and participated in CNME meetings when the ANMA was still supporting the Council's petitions for recognition, thus it is extremely unlikely that he did not know that Calabrese was an administrator at National during this period.

Page 3, paragraph 1.

The following three pages with its accompanying documentation demonstrates the process of the CNME in considering the application of the ANMA for a seat on the Council. The CNME did not reject their application. It was withdrawn by the ANMA after the ANMA refused to answer several questions about the association regarding its membership criteria and history. Until it was formally withdrawn, they were frequently encouraged to continue with the application.

Nine, not six, CNME members were present for the meeting of May 7, 1988 at which the application of the ANMA for representation on the Council was first discussed (Exhibit 5, Minutes). We did not, as Hayhurst asserts, accept the ANMA for representative membership. Instead, we were to vote on the AMNA's application after receiving certain documents from them that had been requested in April (Exhibit 6). Hayhurst pressed for a decision at the meeting, saying that he would find it difficult to support the CNME with his Department of Education contacts if the CNME did not vote in favor of ANMA membership. A membership committee of three CNME members was formed to review the submitted materials and certify their receipt. This membership committee purposefully included the two public

members in order to avoid, as much as possible, any conflict of interest from AANP members. We were to act within 30 days of the receipt of the requested material. The acceptance of ANMA representation was conditional on the submission from the ANMA of information requested earlier and a positive vote at a later meeting. At this meeting we also set in motion a process to establish clearer guidelines for the acceptability of professional associations for representative membership, acknowledging that these would not apply to the ANMA. At Hayhurst's request, on June 18, Dr. Calabrese sent him draft minutes of the May 7 meeting (Exhibit 7).

On August 1, 1988, Calabrese received the response dated July 7 presented at Exhibit 8 acknowledging receipt of the minutes. Hayhurst complied with part of the request but declined to provide minutes and budgets, making the argument that these were privileged information. In April, in response to Calabrese's letter of April 11 (Exhibit 6), he had provided evidence of one meeting, that of January, 1983, without making the privileged information argument. The ANMA response of July 7 also included an objection (Exhibit 8-3) to a policy adopted at the meeting that naturopathic professional members sitting on the Council must hold a current license to practice in at least one jurisdiction. He did not object to other parts of the minutes at that time though they clearly indicate that we were not making a decision on the application until all of the requested materials were received. He closes the letter saying that he was waiting to hear from us.

Though the ANMA application had not been voted on for final acceptance at the May 7, 1988 meeting and he seemed to understand that by his response of July 7, on May 10 Hayhurst had written to a Canadian colleague saying that the ANMA had been "approved" by the CNME (Exhibit 10). After learning of it, Calabrese wrote to him on July 20 asking him to correct the impression his letter had created (Exhibit 11). There followed a letter dated July 27 from Hayhurst insisting that the ANMA had been accepted by the CNME (Exhibit 19). He accused the CNME of having altered its minutes and invited communications between the CNME and the ANMA "so that we may avoid the demise of the CNME." Until receipt of this letter, there was no indication that Hayhurst was challenging the minutes despite his claim of having discussed it on the phone. In an exchange of phone calls thereafter, they discussed the possibility of a misunderstanding of the CNME action on the part of Hayhurst perhaps based on the the phrase "accepting the application." In an August 16 letter, Hayhurst seemed to have accepted that he had misunderstood the action, explicitly acknowledging the CNME position (Exhibit 12). On August 23, Calabrese told Hayhurst in a phone conversation that a CNME phone conference meeting was scheduled for August 29 to consider the ANMA application (see Exhibit 12, notes). However, in a letter dated August 19 (but postmarked August 30), Hayhurst writes to the CNME that "As you know, on May 7, 1988, the CNME voted to accept the ANMA as a supporting member (Exhibit 14)." He goes on to broadly impugn the ability of the CNME to engage in accreditation, its financial activities, and the qualifications and integrity of its members but provides no specific information on the charges. He says that he is withdrawing his support for the CNME and is turning to "older, more reliable sources for accreditation information," presumably meaning the American Naturopathic Medical Certification and Accreditation Board, Inc.

The August 29, 1988 phone conference meeting of the CNME (Exhibit 16, minutes) had only the ANMA application on its agenda since the CNME had promised to

respond within 30 days of receipt of the ANMA material indicated in the May 7 meeting. CNME members expressed surprise at Hayhurst's interpretation of events.

Before this meeting, the CNME had been sent documentation that indicated that an ANMA member had recently (in 1984) been granted a Doctor of Naturopathy degree by an institution that clearly did not have the authority from the State of Washington to grant it (Exhibit 17). This raised the question of how the ANMA was screening the credentials of its members.

In the CNME response of September 7, 1988 to Hayhurst's letter (Exhibit 15), Dr. Calabrese reported the results of the meeting of August 29. He pointed out that two other officers of the ANMA with whom he had talked in early September did not mention the charges that Hayhurst made nor the possibility of withdrawing ANMA support for the CNME. Calabrese noted Hayhurst's allegations with concern and asked for specifics so that an investigation could be made. Hayhurst did not respond to this request.

Hayhurst's letter dated August 19, 1988 indicates that he had sent a copy of his letter to Leslie Ross, a Department of Education official. In a phone call from Hayhurst on September 9, he said that, on the contrary, he had not sent a copy to Ross yet. (The letter apparently was not sent to the Department until it appears in Hayhurst's brief in January 1990.) He demanded an immediate yes or no answer on the ANMA application. He was told that the process defined by the Council needed to be followed and he was encouraged to continue with the application.

Hayhurst attended the next meeting of the CNME on September 24, 1988 (Exhibit 18, minutes). When he was asked about the charges in the letter of August 19 letter, he and the ANMA Board Directors who were present said that they would withdraw the content of the second paragraph of the letter until they knew the outcome of this CNME meeting and that afterward Hayhurst would put his concerns and intentions in a new letter. We did not receive such a letter. As a result of the meeting, we sent the ANMA a letter outlining what the CNME needed to continue with the application (Exhibit 20). We repeated our requests for information not yet received. At that time, CNME members did not know that Hayhurst had apparently arbitrarily inserted the "lawfully practicing" qualifier for admission into the ANMA Articles in 1983. However, since the phrase is ambiguous, we asked how it was interpreted. Because of the questionable diploma we had received, we also asked for information on the ANMA membership screening process. Hayhurst did not reply.

Around the time of the September 24 meeting, the CNME received applications from state naturopathic associations in Idaho, Nevada, New York, Pennsylvania and Puerto Rico requesting membership. Some of these associations sent some of the materials requested of the ANMA, protested inclusion of the same materials that the ANMA had protested, and displayed an overlapping membership featuring the membership of Don Hayhurst in all of them. These associations were sent information on the newly developed association membership process (Exhibit 27) and were not heard from again.

The CNME had a hearing for continued recognition scheduled before the National Committee on Accreditation and Institutional Eligibility on December 12, 1988. On November 30, R. M. Finley, an ANMA vice-president presented Calabrese with

three questions in a note (Exhibit 21-1), demanding an answer by December 4: "1) will the CNME accept the ANMA the same as the AANP; 2) does the CNME want the [National Council Against Health Fraud president William] Jarvis issue diluted; 3) does the CNME want congressional help-pull?" Calabrese responded repeating our position, pointing out that ANMA vice-president Patrick Ranch had said that the ANMA would be working to provide the requested information, and that any help in support of strong naturopathic educational standards would be welcome (Exhibit 21-2 and -3). At the hearing on December 12, Finley and John Miller, representing the ANMA, appeared in opposition to the CNME petition. They presented a seven page brief which reached the CNME by way of the Dept. of Education only four days before the hearing. Much of what they had to say was mistaken and, despite repeated requests for specifics on the broad allegations they had been making, had never been presented to us as criticisms of the Council's activities.

Though they were opposing our continued recognition, when asked by Dr. Bernard Fryshman, a member of the National Advisory Committee, whether the ANMA would accept a seat on the CNME if it were now offered, Mr. Miller said that they would.

On December 16, Hayhurst wrote to Secretary Cavazos, saying that although he had not seen the CNME documentation, he was sure it fell "far short of meeting DOE standards," that much of the profession does not recognize the CNME because of the CNME's "unethical, misleading and pretentious demeanor (Exhibit 22)." He repeats his charge that we altered our minutes adding that we listed people present who were not in attendance (a new charge) without naming the individuals.

In January, 1989, we received a letter (Exhibit 23) that Hayhurst had sent to his constituency soliciting attendance at an ANMA seminar in February, 1989 during which he states that there were to be "business meetings with the AANP and CNME representatives." Since he had not asked the CNME to meet with him, we were surprised at this. When he was phoned about this on January 19, he replied that the "CNME" in his letter meant the "Committee [not the Council] on Naturopathic Medical Education" and that "there is more than one AANP in the world, you know." In the context presented, his statement in the letter seemed intentionally misleading to his constituents.

In a telephone conversation on January 23, 1989 with Calabrese, Hayhurst said that ANMA application was not withdrawn and that it was a matter that he would have to take up with his Board of Directors in February. In March, he protests an article written by Calabrese for the AANP Quarterly newsletter in which it was stated that the ANMA had an application pending (Exhibit 24). Hayhurst says "As usual your statements regarding the ANMA are incorrect," but does not say which facts were misstated. The letter implies the withdrawal of the ANMA application. Calabrese wrote to him in June (Exhibit 25) at the request of the other CNME members asking explicitly if the application was withdrawn, pointing out the inconsistent messages we had received on this issue. Calabrese added his personal encouragement that the ANMA continue with the process and indicating the likelihood that the crux of the problem of the ANMA application would lie "in our request that you provide us with your membership criteria, explaining how the phrase 'lawfully practicing' is interpreted by your membership committee, and your membership screening process." He also offered to explain the CNME position to ANMA members in their newsletter and to provide the same information for the

ANMA newsletter that was being sent to the AANP Quarterly. The CNME received the explicit withdrawal of the application in Hayhurst's letter of June 16, 1989 (Exhibit 26). He did not accept the offer of informing his membership of the CNME position.

Given these events and documents, CNME members were forced to consider several possibilities: 1) that the history of the ANMA was not as Hayhurst had presented it, 2) that he had arbitrarily altered the Articles of Incorporation before they were registered thereby undermining its standards, 3) that he was intentionally creating confusion in the profession by duplicating the names of naturopathic agencies 4) that he may not have always been acting with the knowledge of the other officers and directors of his organization, 5) that ANMA membership criteria were so ambiguous as to allow individuals with no training at all to be admitted, 6) that the minimal membership criteria that the ANMA had were not effectively applied, 7) that funds were being used in ways that the membership had not agreed to, 8) that unlicensable ANMA members were attempting to control educational standards for naturopathic medicine by obtaining a large number of seats on the Council, 9) that the Council was being threatened with either immediately accepting the ANMA's participation in accrediting activities without further question or facing their opposition to CNME recognition by the Secretary of Education and 10) that, since the ANMA demand was not met, Hayhurst is now carrying out the threat.

We believe that the ANMA may be opposing the CNME's continued Recognition because they perceive the establishment of clear educational standards through the Council's work as representing a threat to the practices of unlicensable individuals characterizing themselves as naturopaths unless the unlicensed participate in the process. Our mission, however, is the evaluation of existing educational programs of naturopathic medicine and not the certification of individual credentials. We have no choice but to set a standard which will prepare graduates for licensure and to protect against encroachment on that standard. Some CNME members believe that there is room for a voice for the unlicensed in the accreditation process and that the ANMA should be that voice; others do not. We have encouraged the ANMA to continue with their application and to resolve these questions.

Page 4, sentence 4

While the standards worksheet was developed as an aid to site visitors, its use was not a requirement of our procedures. The worksheet was derived from the Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures which was used during the visit but is not as convenient as the worksheet. We had hired a new Executive Director since the last site visit had been done by the Commission on Accreditation. He was not familiar with the worksheet's intended use and did not provide copies to the visitors. An updated worksheet is to be used on site visits in the future.

Preparation of the site visitors followed the usual practice of sending CNME standards and procedures and college documents together with a cover letter to site visitors. The visitors met the night before in a work session to review the criteria and organize the committee for its visit. The site team was prepared by our Executive Director, Cecil Baxter, PhD, who has done many site visits for the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges and was a member of its Commission

on Accreditation for five years. In his critique of the site visit, Dr. Bradley simply suggested ways that the site team could be additionally supported.

Page 4, sentence 6

The CNME has not opposed the ANMA's Freedom of Information Act request for disclosure of our records as is asserted by Hayhurst. We immediately gave permission for the release of all documents related to our structure, purpose, membership and operations. We indicated that we considered it inappropriate for the Council to release information provided by institutions without the permission of the colleges involved and referred the request to the schools while encouraging them to cooperate with the Department. One of the two schools holding status with the CNME has given permission for the release of all of its documents; the other has released some of these documents.

Page 5, 602.11 (a), sentence 3

The CNME has sought and obtained the broad support of the profession as demonstrated by its composition and the documentation it has submitted in its Petitions. It has concentrated, as is appropriate, on the support of licensed naturopathic physicians, on the associations that represent them, the institutions that train them, and the Boards of Examiners that regulate them. Consistent with its purpose of ensuring the educational community, the public, and other agencies the academic credibility of naturopathic educational programs, it has sought the involvement of individuals who have actually and demonstrably received a naturopathic education. The CNME has not especially pursued the support and participation of unlicensable practitioners as their training varies enormously and is not recognized, their practice has no regulation, and there may be frank danger associated with the practices of some. It has not rejected their participation where it is compatible with the maintenance of high educational standards and the protection of the public.

Page 5, 602.11 (a), sentence 4

The CNME has held most of its meetings in conjunction with the conventions of either the American Association of Naturopathic Physicians (because it is the largest association of licensed naturopathic physicians) or the Northwest Association of Naturopathic Physicians (because the greatest concentration of naturopathic physicians is in the Northwest). The CNME has not been invited to hold a meeting in conjunction with the ANMA. We have been invited to send a representative to one meeting, an invitation which we were unfortunately unable to accept at the time.

Page 5, 602.11 (a), sentence 5

The CNME does not recognize, as Hayhurst states, individual graduates of schools, but evaluates existing institutions training naturopathic physicians. It is true that

the majority of licensed naturopathic physicians in the U.S. are graduates of Bastyr College or National College

Page 5, 602.11(b), sentence 2

The CNME has not taken a position on the institutions that Hayhurst cites as "notorious diploma mills," Fremont and Bernadean, because they have not applied for any status of accreditation. Letters were sent in 1986 to those schools, as well as a number of others, announcing the activities of the CNME and inviting applications for accreditation. Bernadean (a correspondence school) responded with a request for our Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures, but we received no further communication from them. Fremont did not respond to our initial letter and we assume they are out of operation. Their addresses were obtained from a Petition for Recognition sent in 1979 to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare by the American Naturopathic Medical Certification and Accreditation Board, Inc. (ANMC&AB) (Exhibit 13-1) of which R.M. Finley was then president, and Don Hayhurst is now president. Dr. Finley is now a vice-president of the ANMA. While Fremont may be a diploma mill, at least one of the members of the ANMA apparently attended the school (Exhibits 28 and 8-4, #70.), again raising questions about their membership screening procedures.

Page 7, 602.13(h), sentence 3

There was no intention on Bradley's part to imply that there was significant noncompliance with CNME standards. Dr. Bradley's comment, misquoted here, was made in connection with a discussion of how standards are applied and specifically in relation to the CNME guideline which reads that institutions "must meet the Educational Standards listed in Section III unless the institution can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Commission on Accreditation why one or more Standards should not be applied and what equivalent structures or processes respond to the Standard (from the Educational Standards and Accreditation Procedures, page II-3)." A comparison of hours among the schools and CNME standards had been done by a committee in evaluating reliability and validity of standards. The committee's report found that in a CNME prescribed curriculum of 4100 hours distributed over 24 subject areas, there was a deviation between what the schools required each student to take and CNME standards in only one area, Acupuncture, where the standard read 50 clock hours and the schools require 36. This area has been controversial because only Arizona and British Columbia allow acupuncture by naturopathic physicians. Both schools have ample opportunity for more acupuncture training for students going to those jurisdictions or who are interested in Chinese medicine. Other aspects of Chinese medicine are included in other parts of the college curricula. The discussion centered on how this deviation was missed and on how to avoid it in future site visits. It emphasized the importance of the worksheet previously discussed.

Page 7, 602.13(k)

This Criterion does not require that the agency have criteria established to measure

a potential student's ability to benefit as is stated by Hayhurst. The Criterion requires that the agency maintains and makes publicly available any criteria established with respect to nationally recognized, standardized, or industry-developed tests designed to measure the aptitude of prospective students to complete the program. There are no widely accepted pre-professional training measures of student ability for naturopathic medicine such as the MCAT for conventional medicine. The Council therefore has no criteria with respect to those measures. However, the CNME requirements for pre-professional education are fairly rigorous. These include at least three years of course work leading to a baccalaureate, with at least 36 quarter hours in laboratory sciences in biology, physical sciences and chemistry with an overall GPA of at least 2.5. The institutions which hold status with the CNME have additional requirements. Besides preparing students for more advanced study in biochemistry, physiology, etc. in the professional program, these requirements are a *de facto* measure of ability to benefit.

Page 7. 602.14 (b)

It is difficult to collect figures on the number of unlicensed practitioners, with or without professional education, who characterize themselves as "naturopaths." The numbers are probably small as, in states where naturopathic physicians are working for regulation of the profession (recently Nebraska, Montana and Minnesota), less than a dozen such individuals were identified. Hayhurst may be doing a valuable service by identifying these individuals, especially if he would release their names. Those who are not licensed as naturopathic physicians in any state comprised about 90% of the ANMA membership list presented in 1988. Hayhurst has been unwilling to release specifics on his membership since that time. While the ANMA, as an organization, has opposed the continued recognition of the CNME, it has never done so on the basis of the standards of the Council. We have been unable to present the position of the CNME to the ANMA members as Hayhurst has closed access to them through ANMA channels. It is unlikely that Hayhurst has enough information about unlicensed practitioners to say that most do not "accept" the CNME. It is clear that the CNME, contrary to what Hayhurst says, has almost universal support among licensed naturopathic physicians.

Page 7. 602.14(c), sentence 2

The ANMA brief says that the CNME is not accepted by "recognized agencies" and names the American Naturopathic Medical Certification and Accreditation Board, Inc. (ANMC&AB) and the Federation of Naturopathic Medical Licensing Boards (see discussion below) among these. The ANMC&AB has not officially expressed opposition to CNME recognition. It would not be a surprise if it did as Hayhurst is its president, treasurer, and registered agent. In any case, it is not a "recognized" agency. In contrast, the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges, a regional accrediting agency recognized by the Secretary of Education and the Council on Postsecondary Education has participated with the CNME in a joint site visit, supports the CNME's petition for continued recognition (Exhibit 31), and has agreed to assist in providing additional training for CNME site visitors (Exhibit 32).

Page 7, 602.14(c), sentence 3

The Federation of Naturopathic Medical Licensing Boards (FNMLB) has reorganized and reincorporated. No licensing boards are any longer members of the old Federation though its charter may still exist. The new Federation, reorganized as the Federation of Naturopathic Medical Licensing Boards, Inc. (FNMLB, Inc.), has members representing the Boards of Arizona, Connecticut, Hawaii, Oregon, British Columbia, and Ontario. Two representatives of the FNMLB, Inc. are presently on the CNME. The circumstances of the reorganization was explained in the CNME Petition and the CNME has enjoyed the support of both organizations (see Petition, June, 1989, Exhibits 38 and 39). In addition, the CNME has been supported by the individual licensing boards independent of their participation in the Federation.

Page 7 and 8, 602.14(c), sentences 4, 5, 6

Since Hayhurst will not release specifics on his membership, we do not know how large the ANMA is. In 1988, he claimed 121 professional members. The American Association of Naturopathic Physicians (AANP) is the largest association as far as we know (about 250). It is certainly the largest association of licensed naturopathic physicians since the ANMA has very few licensed members. While the AANP has a category of student membership (not counted in the figure above), to say that it consists primarily of students of Bastyr and National is a gross distortion.

Page 8, 602.15, paragraph 1

The CNME does not falsely claim that the Oregon Association of Naturopathic Physicians or Ontario College of Naturopathic Medicine paid money to the CNME in 1989. The Exhibit cited by Hayhurst and provided to the Department of Education which had figures associated with these organizations was not an income statement but a projected budget, was clearly labeled as such, and does not constitute a claim that we had received these sums. The figures mentioned were anticipated revenue and are due and payable to the CNME (Exhibits 29 and 30).

Page 8, 602.15, paragraph 2

Dr. Canvasser is well qualified to be a site visitor. He was at the time of the his site visit to Bastyr in 1986 a member of the Oregon Board of Naturopathic Examiners. He did not make contributions to Bastyr College until well after his site visit there, but his contributions do not constitute a conflict of interest in any case. Since he is a principal in a company making medications available to naturopathic physicians and because his company's sales to Bastyr College clinic have since risen above \$500, Dr. Canvasser would no longer be eligible as a site visitor under the CNME conflict of interest policy adopted in 1987.

**Page 9, paragraph 2**

The CNME has generally chosen the members who are involved in it because they are the best people available for the positions and not, as Hayhurst states, because of insufficient financial resources. The CNME has been able to perform all of its functions while continuously improving its fund balance over the past four years. The comment of Dr. Moore (CNME member and President of the Naturopathic Physicians Licensing Examination Board, an agency which writes licensing exams to which most state licensing boards subscribe) on CNME members "wearing too many hats" is a reflection of the fact that some of the most active members of the profession have decided to devote energy to the professional accrediting agency because they see it as fundamentally important to manifesting the potential the profession holds for health care while simultaneously protecting the public. We have considered the expertise gained in their other activities to be extremely valuable in the work of the Council. Indeed, they were sometimes nominated because of these activities. It is difficult to see how Hayhurst can fairly make the implication that these individuals have a conflict of interest due to multiple offices when, as documented elsewhere in this response, he has been serving simultaneously as president and treasurer of the ANMA and the Nevada Naturopathic Medical Association, and as president, treasurer and registered agent of the ANMC&AB (an accrediting and credentials certifying agency).

**Page 9, paragraph 2.**

Besides the information provided on McConkey under the response we make in this document to page 2, paragraph 2, sentence 4 of Hayhurst's brief, we add the following. As indicated in our Petitions, James McConkey contributed to the preparation of documents at the reorganization of the CNME in 1985 as a lawyer and not as a naturopathic physician, thus his naturopathic education was not especially relevant to his role. He did not participate in CNME accrediting activities. The CNME has no detail on Sequoia which has ceased operations and from which Hayhurst says McConkey got his degree. If Sequoia did sell degrees as Hayhurst asserts, it is interesting to note that at least one member of the ANMA on the membership list that Hayhurst provided in 1988 has a degree from Sequoia (Exhibit 33).

**Page 10 and ff.**

Because the universe of schools eligible for accreditation under CNME guidelines is very small (only two in the U.S. at present), the CNME has sought naturopathic physicians who are not graduates of these schools to engage in their evaluations. Establishing the qualifications of individuals who graduated from schools no longer in existence is sometimes problematic. As is indicated in our Petitions, due to the lack of licensure and regulation in many states, there has been great variation in the quality and length of training for naturopathy. Further complicating this picture, there have been instances of opportunists, taking advantage of the lack of regulation, who generated or claimed frankly fraudulent credentials. While times have greatly altered the view that the public holds of alternative medicine, there were also a number of prosecutions of legitimately trained individuals associated with the valid

practice or teaching of its various forms. There is a movement in naturopathic professional associations toward validating credentials on an era-appropriate basis to make the distinction between those reasonable well-trained and those who are a danger to the public. This process is proceeding slowly. As the standards of naturopathic education have risen and become well-established nationally complementary to the work of the CNME, there will be less of a problem discriminating among more recent graduates. The CNME, unable to investigate every credential, has generally taken the position of relying on state licensure to establish the qualifications of people graduated from schools no longer in existence who may engage in accreditation activities.

Robert Broadwell served as a site visitor to one school in 1986. He was well known to most members of the CNME as a teacher and clinician. We did no background check on his credentials at that time except on his licensure as a naturopathic physician in the State of Oregon which was current.

Page 10, paragraph 2, sentence 3

When asked about his explanation of the discrepancies in his educational record claimed by Hayhurst, Broadwell sent a history of his education and experience presented at Exhibit 34. He comments on his University of Iowa experience in paragraphs numbered 1. to 4.

Page 10, paragraph 2, sentence 4

Broadwell comments on his Kirksville experience in Exhibit 34, paragraphs 7. to 13.

Page 10, paragraph 2, sentence 5

American Therapy University (ATU), American Non-Allopathic University and Midwestern University were three separate institutions, not one as Hayhurst asserts. American Therapy University, which Broadwell attended, was not identified as a "degree mill" by the Department. ATU was a school recognized for professional training by the American Naturopathic Association, the largest professional association of the time. It was also recognized by the Veterans Administration and the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Though he neglects to mention it, in the file that R. M. Finley, ANMA vice-president, examined at the Oregon Board of Naturopathic Examiners is a transcript from ATU documenting Broadwell's education there.

Page 10, paragraph 2, sentence 6

After the site visit that Broadwell participated in, we learned that he had a conviction against him in Ohio in 1954 for "offering to sell a diploma falsely representing the holder to be a graduate of a medical school." The diploma was in Homeopathic Medicine. When confronted with this information, Dr. Broadwell acknowledged it but insisted that there was no wrong-doing on his part.

The CNME officers were in considerable consternation at this revelation. Given that a) he was selected on his reputation established in the 1970's and 80's, b) that he is extremely knowledgeable in the specific area which he examined, c) that other site visitors to the school who had examined the same areas previously and thereafter had rated them similarly, d) that the areas he examined were generally areas of strength in that institution, e) that there were other site visitors of unquestioned credentials on the visit to balance his views, f) that the infraction, if it occurred, had happened 33 years previously and that he had paid his debt, and g) that he had no apparent reason to bias his judgments during the visit, we decided that our belated knowledge of the conviction did not invalidate the evaluation to which he had contributed.

Nevertheless, we took this information very seriously. Broadwell has not been and will not be engaged as a site visitor again. At the CNME meeting of May, 1990, a proposed policy on the examination of presented credentials is being considered.

Page 10, paragraph 2, sentence 7

Broadwell comments on his Tahoe Colleges record in Exhibit 34, paragraphs 17. and 18. In the file that Finley examined at the Oregon Board of Naturopathic Examiners, is Broadwell's Tahoe transcript documenting 30 courses, research, and practical work done during his attendance there.

Page 10, paragraph 2, sentence 8

The CNME provided resumes of each of its members but not of each site visitor that it has engaged. There were short descriptions of the qualifications of the site visitors instead. This had proven to be acceptable to the Department of Education for previous Petitions. There was no special treatment of Broadwell in this regard.

Page 11, paragraph 1, sentence 2

Henry Merritt has been licensed as a naturopathic physician in Oregon, Arizona, Virginia, Ontario, and Alberta. His license in Virginia is issued by the Board of Medicine. He has not been licensed as a medical doctor, but he has used his M.D. as a teaching degree at Frostburg State College, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, and the University of Wisconsin at La Crosse where he was a full Professor and Chair of the Department of Health Education. Many of his classmates at Kansas City University are licensed to practice medicine in a number of jurisdictions. It is not "deception or incompetence on the part of the CNME," as Hayhurst says on page 12 of his submission, to list Merritt's earned M.D. degree after his name.

Page 11, paragraph 1, sentence 3

Again, in the file that R. M. Finley examined at the Oregon Board of Naturopathic Examiners, is a transcript for Merritt's Philathea College work for his Ph.D

documenting 23 courses, a thesis and transfer credit. Dr. Merritt, on our request for more information on his education, sent the letter at Exhibit 35.

Page 11, paragraph 1, sentence 4

Merritt did not claim a D.V.M. degree in the professional abstract he sent to us before the site visit in which he participated.

Page 11, paragraph 1, sentence 5

The document that Hayhurst exhibits from Western States College indicates 12 months of attendance not nine as he says in his narrative. Merritt says that he was attending classes (and teaching basic sciences there) before he was formally admitted. There is no challenge to the validity of Merritt's degree from Western States. Finley himself has a degree from the institution.

Page 12, 602.16 (a), sentence 2

The CNME has engaged the participation of reputable and licensed naturopathic physicians throughout the country as demonstrated by the documentation in its Petitions. We have even had the support and/or participation of some of the few licensed members of the ANMA. Hayhurst is presumably referring to his constituency of unlicensable practitioners. The credentials of the officers of the ANMA listed in his 1988 submission to the CNME (Exhibit 8-1) will serve to illustrate the situation.

It has been difficult to gather information on Don Hayhurst, the ANMA president, as he has been somewhat reluctant to reveal the specifics of his education. He signs his submission to the Department of Education with the credentials "N.M.D. (Naturopathic Medical Doctor), Ph.D." He has told a staff aide for members of the legislature of the State of Nebraska (Doug Gibbs, (402) 471-2617) that he received these degrees from Clayton University (7710 Carondelet, Clayton, St. Louis, MO. 63105 (314) 727-6100). Clayton University offers unaccredited "independent study programs by correspondence which use local adjunct faculty selected by the students" generally lasting about a year, gives extensive "life experience" credit and will arrange any type of program requested. Clayton University is not to be confused with Clayton School of Natural Healing, a different correspondence school in Alabama. Clayton University has no experience at all with naturopathic medicine. He received from Clayton a Ph.D. in counseling and psychology in 1981 and a "Doctor in Homeopathic Medicine" in 1983. He has also claimed naturopathic training at the "Utah College" to his district assemblyman, but older naturopaths in Utah have no knowledge of such a college (Exhibit 36). Hayhurst has been invited to join the American Association of Naturopathic Physicians but has been unable or unwilling to meet the membership criteria. He has a history of attempting to block regulatory efforts in Nebraska and Montana. As shown by his submission to the Department, he also seems to have a collection of blank, signed diplomas from institutions purporting to grant naturopathic degrees (see his Appendices 2 and 5). He is not licensed or eligible for licensure as a naturopathic physician in any state.

For a time he held a license in Nevada under a physician extender law requiring that the practitioner be under the supervision of a medical doctor. That law was closed in 1987 and all licenses were expired. Thus, there is some question as to whether he is practicing "lawfully" in Nevada and he may, therefore, be ineligible to be a member of his own organization, the ANMA.

One of the ANMA vice-presidents, R. M. Finley, has a license as a naturopathic physician in Oregon. The other vice-president, Patrick Ranch, is a chiropractor practicing in Idaho who attended a program in naturopathy designed as monthly 3 day seminars over a period of 36 months consisting of about 800 hours of lecture with no supervised clinical training. He has no license as a naturopathic physician and is probably not eligible for licensure in any state.

Listed as secretary of the ANMA in their 1988 letter (Exhibit 8-1), James Solomon, is a graduate of Arizona College of Naturopathic Medicine, a school which withdrew its application for status with the CNME in 1979 and was subsequently closed by the State of Arizona. It was never recognized by the Arizona Board of Naturopathic Examiners. Its graduates are not eligible for licensure as naturopathic physicians in any state and Solomon has no such license. In October, 1989 Solomon, who practices in Idaho, was arrested after reportedly promising to cure two cancer patients (Exhibit 37-1) and diagnosing the disease with a blood test, hair analysis and a pendulum (37-2). His case is now pending.

While we do not wish to impugn the qualifications of ANMA members, the CNME does not believe that it would be prudent to engage these particular individuals in accreditation activities. These and the other examples among ANMA members noted in the text above hopefully will demonstrate to the Committee and the Department of Education why the CNME has proceeded cautiously with respect to the ANMA and Hayhurst's constituency.

Conversely, while most members of the CNME are graduates of Bastyr and National, the awareness of the dangers of the small universe of institutions now training naturopathic physicians has led the Council to exercise extreme care to render unbiased decisions. The structure of the Council and its Commission on Accreditation, the unassailable credentials of all members, an Executive Director with extensive accreditation experience, the presence of public members experienced in education and accreditation, the enactment of a firm conflict-of-interest policy (Exhibit 38), the support and participation of state licensing boards, the development of programs of validity and reliability, its affiliation with recognized accrediting agencies, and the openness of CNME meetings and activities serves to assure the public of the quality of professional educational programs accredited by the our Commission.

Page 12, 602.16 (a), sentence 3

Calabrese, contrary to what Hayhurst states here, is not listed in the HEP Higher Education Directory as the head of National College, but as a Dean. He served as the Dean of Clinical Education from 1986 to 1989. He has never headed the College.

Page 13, 602.16 (b), sentence 1

The CNME did not grant accreditation to Bastyr College, as Hayhurst states, without insisting on the establishment of a gross anatomy laboratory. It is true that the College had, in ten years of steady growth, begun to outgrow their lab, and last year they remodeled and upgraded the facility. Within four months of the Commission action granting Bastyr full accreditation, Bastyr was also granted full accreditation by the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges.

Page 13, 602.16 (b), sentence 3

Hayhurst says that the CNME should not have granted candidacy status to National College on the basis of an "unqualified audit as evidence of reduced debt." His contention is based on his misunderstanding of the accounting phrase "unqualified audit" which means that the CPA who prepares the document has no reservations, or qualifications, about the material presented. National College could have produced no better evidence of reduced debt.

Page 13, 602.16 (c)

CNME meetings are open. Visitors present at the May 7, 1988 meeting (minutes at Exhibit 5) were asked to excuse themselves for 30 minutes. Hayhurst had presented the ANMA application for a seat on the CNME without providing the suggested documentation. The California organization also calling itself the ANMA had protested the seating of Hayhurst's group. John Miller, an ANMA member, was protesting CNME membership qualifications. CNME members had had no opportunity to discuss the ramifications of seating an association whose members were largely unlicensed. Hayhurst nevertheless requested that the CNME act on his application immediately. Protracted discussion had already taken place and the ANMA had fully presented its case. Asking visitors to leave for a few minutes to allow CNME members to discuss a course of action seemed prudent. Only discussion took place in the interlude; motions and votes were taken only after the visitors had returned.

The Vancouver meeting on May 20, 1989 was completely open and, in fact, had five visitors present. Though there was no ANMA representative at the meeting, there was no request from the ANMA for Kevin Garner to attend, no need for a request, and certainly no refusal. R. M. Finley, an ANMA representative, attended the following meeting of the CNME and taped the proceedings without making such a request and with no objection from the CNME.

Page 14, 602.17 (c), sentence 1

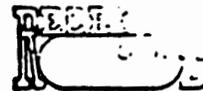
Licensing exam passing rates have been generally good though graduates do not necessarily pass on their first try.

**Page 14, 602.18(b)**

**The single basic sciences exam focused on by Hayhurst was determined to be seriously flawed by the Oregon Board. The Washington Board did not agree with Oregon's handling of the problem. While Washington will not offer reciprocity of licensure to those who passed that exam according to the Oregon formula, reciprocity has not been abandoned by Washington State. Hayhurst quotes Maria Gardipee as saying that the graduates of NCNM are "just not meeting minimum competency requirements." Ms. Gardipee ((206) 753-1230) denies saying this and is willing to be contacted to confirm it. NCNM has been under the continuous approval of the Washington State Higher Education Coordinating Board for many years.**

## EXHIBITS

1. Correspondence with John Minasian
2. Articles of Incorporation of ANMA dated February 28, 1983
3. Articles of Incorporation of ANMA dated April 25, 1983
4. Letter from Hayhurst giving a history of the ANMA
5. Minutes of CNME meeting of May 7, 1988
6. Letter requesting documents supporting ANMA application, Apr. 11, 1988
7. Letter from Calabrese to Hayhurst transmitting CNME minutes of May 7, 1988
8. Response of ANMA to request for documentation, July 7, 1988
9. Letter from Hayhurst soliciting membership in ANMA
10. Letter from Hayhurst to P. Wales claiming "approval" by CNME, May 10, 1988
11. Letter from Calabrese to Hayhurst protesting the claim, July 20, 1988
12. Letter from Hayhurst acknowledging CNME position, Aug. 16, 1988
13. Documents re: Am. Naturopathic Med. Certification and Accred. Board, Inc.
14. Letter from Hayhurst dated August 19, 1988
15. Letter from Calabrese to Hayhurst, Sept. 7, 1988
16. Minutes of CNME meeting of August 29, 1988
17. Diploma from Northgate Graduate School granted to ANMA member
18. Minutes of CNME meeting of September 24, 1988
19. Letter from Hayhurst, July 27, 1988
20. Letter from CNME to Hayhurst asking for information to continue application
21. Note from Finley, Nov. 30, 1988 with response from Calabrese.
22. Letter from Hayhurst to Secretary Cavazos, Dec. 19, 1988
23. Letter from Hayhurst to his constituency claiming meetings with CNME and AANP, undated, distributed in December, 1988 and January, 1989
24. Letter from Hayhurst, March 16, 1989
25. Letter from Calabrese to Hayhurst, June 1, 1989
26. Letter from Hayhurst, June 16, 1989
27. CNME membership procedure and standards for professional associations adopted September 24, 1988
28. Transcript of ANMA member from Fremont College
29. Letter from Oregon Association acknowledging dues payable to CNME
30. Bill to Ontario College for application fee
31. Letter in support of CNME petition from Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges (NASC)
32. Letter from NASC agreeing to train CNME site visitors
33. Application for licensure from ANMA member graduated from Sequoia
34. Narrative of education and experience from R. Broadwell
35. Letter from Chancellor of Philathea College
36. Letters on Utah College
37. Newspaper articles on Solomon case, November, 1989
38. CNME conflict-of-interest policy



## Oregon Board of Naturopathic Examiners

1400 SW 5th AVENUE, ROOM 908, PORTLAND, OREGON 97201 PHONE (503) 229-5616

March 1, 1990

Steven Pappas  
Accreditation Evaluation Branch  
Room 3036 ROB 3  
U. S. Department of Education  
Washington, D.C. 20202-5171

Dear Mr. Pappas:

The Oregon Board of Naturopathic Examiners has a representative on The Council on Naturopathic Medical Education and have in our administrative rules the authority to utilize the CNME when accrediting schools (ORS 850-20-025). The Board would like to extend our support to this council. We have every confidence in the way the CNME is performing in their activities.

Enclosed please find a copy of ORS 850-20-025.

Written at the request of the Oregon Board of Naturopathic Examiners.

Kathy Soderberg  
Executive Officer

**OREGON ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**  
**CHAPTER 850, DIVISION 20 — BOARD OF NATUROPATHIC EXAMINERS**

**DIVISION 20**

**APPROVAL OF NATUROPATHIC  
SCHOOLS OF MEDICINE**

**Scope and Purpose**

**850-20-000** (1) ORS 685.060 requires that one of the minimum educational requirements for licensure to practice naturopathic medicine in Oregon is graduation from a naturopathic school or college approved by the State Board of Naturopathic Examiners which teaches adequate courses in all subjects necessary to the practice of naturopathic medicine. The statute also specifies required subjects and subjects which the Board may not require, and permits the Board to require other subjects at its discretion.

(2) The purpose of these rules is to provide a set of standards and procedure by which schools of naturopathic medicine may obtain approval by the Board of Naturopathic Examiners in order that graduates of those schools may be permitted to take examinations for license.

Stat. Auth.: ORS Ch. 685

Eff.: NE 1-1981, f. & ef. 12-7-81

**Exercise of Board Authority**

**850-20-005** (1) The Board may grant provisional approval to a naturopathic college which has been in continuous operation for at least one year. Provisional approval may be for a period not to exceed two and one half years and may not be renewed or extended. Provisional approval shall not imply nor assure eventual approval under ORS 685.060:

(a) In order to obtain provisional approval, a naturopathic college must demonstrate compliance with, or adequate planning and resources to achieve compliance with, the standards of rule 850-20-020(1) — (17).

(b) The procedures for application, examination, review, and revocation of provisional approval shall be the same as those specified for approval in rules 850-20-020, 850-20-025 and 850-20-030.

(2) After initial approval by the Board, periodic reports may be required. Failure to conform to established standards may result in loss of approval. No school shall receive approval for a period longer than five years. Prior to the expiration of the period of approval, the school must apply to the Board for renewal of approval. The Board shall review the application and make a final decision of approval or disapproval in not more than 11 months.

(3) If a naturopathic college fails to maintain the required standards or fails to report significant institutional changes within 90 days of the change including changes in location, the Board may revoke its approval subject to rule 850-20-030. The Board may make periodic contact and/or send a representative or evaluation committee to an institution to gather information as authorized under rule 850-20-025. All costs of an evaluation shall be borne by the institution requesting approval.

Stat. Auth.: ORS Ch. 685

Eff.: NE 1-1981, f. & ef. 12-7-81

**Eligibility**

**850-20-010** (1) In order to apply for provisional approval, a naturopathic college must have been in continuous operation for a period of at least one year.

(2) In order to apply for full approval, a naturopathic college must have been in continuous operation for a period of at least three years.

Stat. Auth.: ORS Ch. 685

Eff.: NE 1-1981, f. & ef. 12-7-81

**Application Procedure**

**850-20-015** Naturopathic colleges making application shall do so on a form or in a manner specified by the Board which shall be designed to meet the standards of rule 850-20-020.

Stat. Auth.: ORS Ch. 685

Eff.: NE 1-1981, f. & ef. 12-7-81

**Standards**

**850-20-020** The following standards shall be used by the Board in considering a naturopathic college's application for approval:

(1) Objectives. The objectives of the institution shall be clearly stated and address the preparation for the naturopathic physician to provide patient care. The implementation for the objectives should be apparent in the administration of the institution, individual course objectives, and in the total program leading to the N.D. degree.

(2) Organization. The institution shall be incorporated under the laws of the state of its residence as an education corporation. Control shall be vested in a board of directors composed of naturopathic physicians and others. Under no circumstances shall more than one-third of the directors have administrative or instructional positions in the college. The directors must demonstrate collective responsibility in their:

(a) Knowledge of, and policy decisions consistent with, the Articles of Incorporation or Charter, By-laws; and

(b) Objectives of the college; support of college programs and active participation in college governance; selection and oversight of the chief Administrative Officer.

(3) Administration. The education and experience of directors, administrators, supervisors, and instructors should be sufficient to insure that the student will receive educational services consistent with institutional objects. The administration of the institution shall be such that the lines of authority are clearly drawn. The institution shall present with its application a catalog and a brief, narrative explanation of how the administration of the institution is, or is to be, organized and how the administrative responsibility for each of the following is or is to be managed:

(a) Faculty and staff recruitment;

(b) Personnel records management;

(c) Faculty pay scale and policies;

(d) Standards and practices relating to evaluation, improvement of instruction, promotion, retention, and tenure;

(e) Admissions policies including procedures used to solicit students;

(f) Development and administration of policies governing rejection and retention of students, job placement, and student counseling and advising services;

(g) Curriculum requirements;

(h) Tuition and fee policies;

(i) Financial management policies.

(4) Financial condition. The institution shall demonstrate its financial stability by submitting annual certified audits, reports, or other appropriate evidence. Board may require posting of an adequate bond.

(5) Records. The institution shall maintain an adequately detailed system of records for each student beginning with application credential through the entire period of attendance. The records, including matriculation, attendance, grades, disciplinary action and financial accounts, shall be the permanent property of the institution to be safeguarded from all hazards and not to be loaned or destroyed.

(6) Educational Credentials:

(a) Upon satisfactory completion of the educational program and the payment of all tuition and fees owed by the student to the college, the student shall receive a degree from the college indicating that the course of study has been satisfactorily completed by the student.

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**CHAPTER 890, DIVISION 20 — BOARD OF NATUROPATHIC EXAMINERS**

(b) In addition, for each student who graduates or withdraws, the college shall prepare, permanently file, and make available a transcript that specified all courses completed, provided that all tuition and fees owed by the student have been paid. Each course entry shall include a title, the number of credits awarded, and a grade. The transcript shall separately identify all credits awarded by transfer, or examination.

(c) Upon request, all student records and transcripts shall be made available to the Naturopathic Board of Examiners.

(7) Catalog. The institution shall publish a current catalog at least every two years containing the following information:

(a) Name and address of the school;

(b) Date of publication;

(c) Admission requirements and procedures;

(d) A statement of tuition and other fees or charges for which a student is responsible and a statement on refund policies;

(e) A school calendar designating the beginning and ending dates of each term, vacation periods, holidays, and other dates of significance to students;

(f) Objectives of the institution;

(g) A list of trustees (directors), administrative officers and faculty members including titles and academic qualifications;

(h) A statement of policy about standards of progress required of students, including the grading system, minimum satisfactory grades, conditions for interruption for unsatisfactory progress, probation, and re-entry, if any;

(i) A description of each course indicating the number of hours and course content, and its place in the total program;

(j) A description of facilities and major equipment, including library laboratory and clinical training facilities;

(k) Statements on the nature and availability of student financial assistance, counseling, housing, and placement services, if any;

(l) A statement indicating whether the school is recognized by other agencies or associations for the licensing or certification of naturopathic physicians;

(m) Any other material facts concerning the school or instruction which are reasonably likely to affect the decision of the potential student.

(8) Admission Policies and Procedures. The college shall have admission rules that include the following:

(a) All candidates must furnish proof of having at least two years (60 semester/90 quarter hours or equivalent) credit at an accredited institution which includes at least 30 quarter (20 semester) hours of biology and chemistry;

(b) Official transcripts of undergraduate credit must be sent directly from the undergraduate college to the naturopathic college;

(c) No student shall be admitted without a review of his/her psychological, moral, and professional attitudes by an Admissions Committee of at least three members;

(d) No applicant will be barred from admission because of sex, race, color, religion, age, physical handicap, or national or ethnic origin;

(e) Applicants for admission with advanced standing shall be required to furnish evidence:

(A) That they can meet the same entrance requirements as candidates for the first-year class;

(B) That courses equivalent in content and quality to those given in the admitting college in the year(s) preceding that to which admission is desired have been satisfactorily completed;

(C) That the work was done at a recognized school acceptable to the Naturopathic College;

(D) The candidate has a letter of reference from the Dean of the college from which transfer is made.

(9) Attendance. The college shall have a stated policy relative to attendance. Students shall be required to spend the

last year of the course in residence in the college which confers the degree.

(10) Curriculum. The curriculum of the college shall be designed and presented to meet or exceed the statutory requirements of length and content. The following standards are intended not as an exact description of a college's curriculum, but rather as guidelines for the typical acceptable program. It is expected that the actual program taught by each college will be prepared by the academic departments of the institution to meet the needs of their students and will exceed the outline present here. This policy has been adopted to preserve autonomy and uniqueness of each naturopathic institution, and to encourage innovative and experimental programs enhancing the quality of naturopathic education:

(a) Basic Science:

(A) Anatomy (Includes Histology and Embryology).....

350 hours

(B) Physiology .....

250 hours

(C) Pathology .....

125 hours

(D) Biochemistry.....

125 hours

(E) Public Health (Includes Public Health, genetics, microbiology, immunology).....

175 hours

(F) Naturopathic Philosophy.....

100 hours

(G) Pharmacology .....

100 hours

(b) Clinical Sciences:

(A) Diagnostic Courses:

(i) Physical diagnosis.....

75 hours

(ii) Clinical diagnosis.....

100 hours

(iii) Laboratory diagnosis.....

50 hours

(iv) Radiological diagnosis.....

50 hours

(B) Therapeutic Courses:

(i) Materia Medica (Botanical medicine).....

150 hours

(ii) Homeotherapeutics, Emergency Drugs .....

—

(iii) Nutrition.....

125 hours

(iv) Physical Medicine .....

150 hours

(v) Psychological Medicine.....

75 hours

(C) Specialty Courses:

(i) Organ Systems (Cardiology, Dermatology, Endocrinology, EENT, Gastroenterology) .....

175 hours

(ii) Human Development (Gynecology, Obstetrics, Pediatrics, Geriatrics) .....

75 hours

(iii) Acupuncture.....

25 hours

(iv) Jurisprudence.....

25 hours

(v) Medical Emergencies.....

50 hours

(vi) Office Procedures .....

50 hours

(vii) Minor Surgery .....

50 hours

(D) Clinical Externship/Preceptorship.....

1100 hours

(11) Academic Standards. The institution must regularly evaluate the quality of its instruction and have a clearly defined set of standards of competence required of its students. Promotion to each successive phase of the program and graduation shall be dependent on mastery of the knowledge and skills presented in the program.

(12) Faculty. Faculty members shall be qualified by training and experience to give effective instruction in the subject(s) taught; advanced degrees in their respective disciplines are expected. The faculty should participate in development and evaluation of curriculum, instructional methods and facilities; student discipline, welfare, and counseling; establishment of administrative and educational policies; scholarly and professional growth. Provisions shall be made to allow and encourage faculty involvement in these non-instructional functions. The college shall not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, age, color, religion, or national or ethnic origin in the recruitment and hiring of faculty. The college shall have stated policies on faculty hiring, compensation, fringe benefits, tenure, retirement, firing, grievance and appeals procedures. The college shall submit to the Board for

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each faculty member a resume which includes the following information:

- (a) Academic rank or title;
  - (b) Degree(s) held, the institution(s) that conferred the degree(s), the date(s) thereof, and whether earned or honorary;
  - (c) Other qualifying training or experience;
  - (d) Name and course number of each course taught;
  - (e) Other non-instructional responsibilities, if any, and the proportion of the faculty member's time devoted to them;
  - (f) The length of time associated with the college.
- (13) **Library.** The library shall be staffed, equipped and organized to adequately support the instruction, and research of students and faculty. The college shall submit information about the library to include:
- (a) Financial support;
  - (b) Circulation;
  - (c) Number of volumes exclusive of documents;
  - (d) List of periodicals;
  - (e) List of reference books;
  - (f) List of other instructional media;
  - (g) List of special collections;
  - (h) Staff and operating hours;
  - (i) Arrangements for student and faculty access to library facilities at other institutions.
- (14) **Clinical Training.** The clinical facilities shall be adequate in size, number and resources to provide all aspects of naturopathic diagnosis and treatment. There shall be properly equipped rooms for consultation, physical examination, and therapy, and a pharmacy, laboratory, and radiological equipment. A licensed and adequately experienced naturopathic physician must be present in the clinic at all times which the clinic is open and in direct supervision of diagnosis and treatment of patients by students. The ratio of adequately prepared students to clinical staff shall be such that patient care and student experience are optimized while the competence of the student is evaluated.
- (15) **Physical Plant, Materials and Equipment.** The college shall own or enjoy the full use of buildings and equipment adequate to accommodate the instruction of its students, and administrative and faculty offices. There shall be adequate facilities for the safekeeping of valuable records. The plant and grounds, equipment and facilities shall be maintained in an efficient, sanitary, and presentable condition. All laws relating to safety and sanitation and other regulations concerning public

buildings shall be observed. There shall be sufficient personnel employed to carry out proper maintenance.

(16) **Cancellation and Refund Policy.** The college shall maintain a fair and equitable policy in reference to refund of the unused portion of tuition fees and other charges in the event a student fails to enter the course, or withdraws at any time prior to completion of the course. Such a policy shall be in keeping with generally accepted practices of institutions of higher education.

(17) **Other Information.** The applicant college shall provide any other information about the institution and its programs required by the Board.

Stat. Auth.: ORS Ch. 685  
Hist.: NE 1-1981, f. & cf. 12-7-81

**Review Procedures**

850-20-025 (1) The Board may send a representative or an examining or evaluation committee to inspect any institution requesting approval under ORS 685.060. Such inspections may be at any reasonable time during the normal operating hours of the college. The report of the representative or committee and the college's response shall be submitted as part of the documentation necessary for Board action on the college's application.

(2) In lieu of a review in accordance with part of the standards used by the Board as listed in OAR 850-20-020 the Board may acknowledge the adequacy of accreditation by the Council on Naturopathic Medical Education, Inc., or other accrediting agency acceptable to the Board.

(3) Final action for approval by the Board will be held open to the public and the applicant college shall be invited to attend.

Stat. Auth.: ORS Ch. 685  
Hist.: NE 1-1981, f. & cf. 12-7-81

**Revocation of Approval**

850-20-030 Approval obtained under ORS 685.060 may be revoked for proper cause by the Board at its discretion, after a hearing. Such hearing shall be held in accordance to Model Rules of Procedure applicable to contested cases.

Stat. Auth.: ORS Ch. 685  
Hist.: NE 1-1981, f. & cf. 12-7-81