Educational Timeline and

Movement to Master's Level for O&P

1970

- First Conference on Education
  - Ponte Vedra I
    - Report identified assistants to be educated at associates level
      - Practitioners to be educated at four year baccalaureate curriculum level

1973

- ABC board approves historic change in requirements for examination eligibility
  - High school diploma no longer sufficient; ABC upgraded its academic standards to require an Associates degree for the 1975 - 1979 exams. Board also stated that after 1979 all must possess a minimum of a bachelor's degree in O&P from accredited program

1975

- ABC placed moratorium on "assistant" program due to small interest

1976

- Ponte Vedra II occurs
  - Due to significant shortage of professional prosthetists/orthotists ABC pulls back from educational requirement in 1980 of requirement of a bachelors in O&P and requires bachelor's in any discipline plus courses in O&P (short term courses) and continues accepting associate degreed individuals

1984

- Board for Orthotists Certification (BOC) founded

1985

- ABC board votes that effective January 1, 1986 baccalaureate as a prerequisite to sit for exam.
- A 10-year phase out process of associate degreed individuals to pursue certification is established - individuals had to have name placed on a list

1990

- Phoenix Conference on Education Held
  - Specific issues addressed were funding crisis and curriculum not meeting needs of profession

1993

- New education standards adopted and put under the CAAHEP system

2005

- O&P Education Summit Meeting Held - first in over 15 years
  - Recommendation to move primary education to minimum of master's degree
  - Report published and provided to all currently accredited programs and placed on NCOPE's website
  - Published report and a verbal presentation to AAOP, ABC and AOPA board of directors
  - Meeting and recommendation of movement to master's receives publicity by the Academy and their publications due to funding from Academy Education Grant
  - At Fall residency director workshop participants informed of movement to master's

2006

- NCOPE hosts strategic meeting on movement to master's level
  - Report published and placed on ncope website and provided to AAOP, ABC, AOPA board of directors
    - Develop white paper for programs on rationale, including a survey of current programs ability to move to master's
    - Communities of interest should be informed through marketing of movment to master's
    - Sense of urgnecy to move forward
  - Articles published in Almanac and O&P Business News on movement to master's level as result of Summit Report
  - At two residency director workshops, participants informed of movement to master's

2007

- February 2007 NCOPE with Academy grant funding hold's final series of three meetings on master's curriculum development
- NCOPE board approves date of 2010 for any new programs applying for accreditation
- Letter with white paper mailed to all accredited programs in May 2007, informing them of 2010 deadline for new programs and transition of 2012 for accredited programs
- Survey mailed to all programs on ability to move to a master's level
  - Response was positivie with all but one able to easily make transition to master's
- NCOPE develops extensive Q&A on movment to master's
- September 2007 NCOPE presents during a session on the practitioner of the future and movement to the master's during AOPA annual meeting
- October 2007 article on movement to master's published by *Alamanac*
- October 2007 Q&A placed on NCOPE's website

2008-2009

- Seris of meetings to draft master's level curriculum guide
- Guide and standards for public comment in summer and fall of 2009
- Work on changes needed for the residency program with graduates educated at master's level through series of meetings
- Yearly surveys sent to currently accredited programs checking on progress to master's level

2010

- Year that new programs created must apply at master's level only
- Continue to work with currently accredited programs on their transition to master's

2012

- Certificate level programs may enroll students through December 31, 2012 for first discipline.
- Accredited Programs enrolling in 2012 at Master's level: Eastern Michigian, Georgia Tech, Hartford University, St. Petersburg College/Florida State University, University of Pittsburgh, University of Texas, University of Washington
- Accredited Programs requring additional time to transition and enrolling at Master's in 2013: California State University, Century College, Northwestern University
- Candidacy programs enrolling at Master's level in 2012: Alabama State University and Loma Linda University
- Candidacy Application expected from Baylor Medical College

2013-2014

- Certificate level programs may enroll only students extending their credential until December 31, 2014 (an additional two years as voted by NCOPE board on July 18, 2009). Based on feedback from schools it appears Century College may be only program offering the certificate level through 2014. Newington and Northwestern will not enroll and graduate in 2014 certificate level students.
- Candidacy program enrolling at Master's level in 2013 (anticipated): Baylor Medical College
- All accredited programs enrolling at Master's level

New Jersey State Agreement
President Clark advised the directors of the fee limitation ($500) and 2-day test length maximum that the New Jersey licensure board must observe. Both he and Dwain Faso will comprise a subcommittee to work on the agreement with Ms. Wong.

Daily Travel Reimbursement on Meals
The board agreed to change the reimbursement allowance for meals to a $50.00 per diem. This allowance does not apply to guidelines for reimbursement of meals during the CPM examination administration.

Proposal for Residency Requirement

MOTION was made to accept the completion of the NCOPE-approved residency program in lieu of the 1-year (1900 hours) work experience to satisfy candidate eligibility. (McNeill/Beall) Passed.

Academy Proposal for Professional Development
Messrs. Benecke and Schultz of the Academy Continuing Education Committee gave a formal presentation of the proposal highlighting important aspects of the revised process and requirements for awarding units for continuing education activities.

There was also a discussion of the funding request made by the Academy for the transfer of tracking records from the ABC to the Academy.

Implementation of 1992 Resolution on Mandatory Continuing Education
After further discussion by the board, it was agreed to retain all administrative functions related to the continuing education policies of the ABC. An autonomous committee will be established whose responsibilities will be the awarding and tracking of CEUs.

MOTION was made to change the date for implementation of the 1992 resolution on mandatory continuing education to December 1, 1994. (Faso/Beall) Passed.

MOTION was made to accept the conceptual program on continuing education describing criteria for awarding credit as presented by the Academy. (Beall/Neumann) Passed.

MOTION was made to establish an autonomous committee on continuing education. Initial appointments will include recommendations from the Academy and AOPA.