

National Commission on  
Orthotic and Prosthetic Education

# 2004 ANNUAL REPORT

## Mission Statement

*NCOPE's mission is to be the recognized authority for the development and accreditation of O&P education and residency standards leading to competent patient care in the changing health care environment*





*Photo Courtesy of Northwestern University*

# NCOPE



*Photo Courtesy of Newington Certificate Program*

## Chairman's Message

Dear O&P Colleagues:

“Exciting” and “challenging” are two words that describe 2004 for the commission and the profession alike. And, in 2005, we anticipate landmark decisions regarding the future of O&P education. But, before we look ahead, let’s review the events and decisions that affected NCOPE in 2004.



One issue that NCOPE followed closely last year and continues to follow is the ongoing relationship between ABC and BOC. Now that negotiations have resumed between the two groups, NCOPE is optimistic that a decision will be made — one that is beneficial for the profession as a whole.

NCOPE continues to move forward with outcome-based standards and is one step closer to implementing them. While CAAHEP has mandated that these new standards be implemented by 2007, it is the intention of the commission to have these standards up and running before then. Buddy Jeffcoat, CO continues to spearhead this effort for NCOPE, and we applaud him for his work thus far. This educational paradigm shift will provide a better mechanism for schools and NCOPE to evaluate O&P programs based on learner performance.

Last year also saw the adoption of a bylaw change for the commission. Now, NCOPE will add one additional public member to the board, bringing the total to 11. The public member has proven to be an invaluable asset over the years for NCOPE. The addition of another public member further increases the knowledge and decision-making capability of the commission, thus allowing us to make better-informed decisions about O&P education.

With the transition from 2004 to 2005, the commission recently had its greatest turnover of commissioners since its inception in 1991. We say goodbye to the following four outstanding commissioners who have each served six years: Darrell Clark, CO; Mike Russell, CPO, FAAOP; Mark Taylor, CPO; and Gene Gary-Williams, Ph.D. Through their insight, knowledge and dedication, NCOPE was able to accomplish a tremendous amount in the areas of standards, primary education and residency. While NCOPE will miss their dedication, we also look forward to the addition of five new commissioners.

The new year finds NCOPE on the verge of a historic conference. On April 8-9, NCOPE will host an education summit to determine the appropriate level of O&P educational training now and in the future. The conference, which has been underwritten by the Academy through a grant from the Department of Education, will bring together approximately 32 leaders within the profession with ties to education. We as a commission look forward not only to the conference, but also to examining the immense possibilities of where O&P education will be in the future.

In closing, NCOPE looks forward to a productive year, with the anticipation of a better education for tomorrow. We continue to thank all those in the profession who support NCOPE and education.

Sincerely,



Bryan S. Malas, MHPE, CO  
Chairman



*Photo Courtesy of Median School*

## *Executive Director's Message*

Dear Orthotic/Prosthetic Professional:

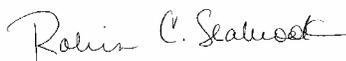
2004 was an interesting year for the entire profession, and specifically in the areas of education and certification. The first part of the year saw unification talks between ABC and BOC come to an end. The result was that each organization allowed individuals already certified by the other to apply for certification. The net effect on NCOPE was a loss of residents. This was due to a small percentage of students choosing to forgo residency and instead pursue certification by BOC to apply to ABC within the one-year time frame. We also had some residents stop their residencies mid-stream to become BOC certified and then apply to ABC. Then talks resumed between the two organizations in the latter part of the year.

NCOPE continued to monitor the on-again, off-again talks while providing accreditation services for primary and residency education. This year brought two new resident responsibilities to the residency standards. NCOPE made it a requirement for residents to perform one community service project, which could include promoting O&P as a profession, and present one case study during the 12-month residency.

2004 brought the excitement of new programs in O&P. The development, application and accreditation from new O&P programs was high with the accreditation of the first O&P master's level program at Georgia Tech, the application for accreditation of a graduate certificate program in O&P at Eastern Michigan University and the announcement and letter of intent to pursue NCOPE accreditation of a bachelor's level program at St. Petersburg College.

NCOPE closed the year with an eye to 2005 and what challenges it will offer education and accreditation. We look back on the great accomplishments of the previous board of commissioners and the mark they have left on the O&P profession through education.

Sincerely,



Robin C. Seabrook  
Executive Director



# Accreditation at a Glance 2004

## Education Programs

During 2004, NCOPE performed accreditation services for the following programs:

### Practitioner Level

Century College	Reviewed self-study for reaccreditation, on-site visit to occur in 2005
Eastern Michigan	Reviewed self-study and on-site visit conducted
Georgia Tech	On-site visit conducted and accreditation granted for two years
Rancho Los Amigos	Program continues on inactive status
University of Washington	Reviewed self-study, on-site visit conducted and accreditation granted for five years

### Technician Level

Median School of Allied Health	Program placed on inactive status per program's request
--------------------------------	---

## Residency Accreditation Report

During 2004, NCOPE performed the following accreditation services:

Reviewed and accredited:	119 patient care facilities for residency programs
Tracked residents:	208 residents in the 2003-04 cycle
Completed residents:	173 residents completed in 2004

## 2004 Accredited Educational Programs Listing

### Practitioner Level Programs (CAAHEP Accredited)

Master's = 1

Georgia Tech

Baccalaureate = 3

California State University

University of Texas

University of Washington

Post-Baccalaureate Certificate = 5

California State University

Century College

Newington Certificate Program

Northwestern University

Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Ctr.

### Assistant Level Programs (NCOPE Accredited)

Associate Degree/Certificate = 1

Oklahoma State University - Okmulgee

### Technician Level Programs (NCOPE Accredited)

Associate Degree/Certificate = 5

Century College

Baker College of Flint

Francis Tuttle Technology

Median School of Allied Health

Spokane Falls Community College



*Photo Courtesy of OSU—Okmulgee*

National Commission on Orthotic & Prosthetic Education

Statements of Financial Position

	December 31	
	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 223,409	\$ 154,201
Investments	133,319	127,617
Accounts receivable and other assets	2,933	2,368
Furniture and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$29,107 and \$28,876, respectively	<u>12,037</u>	<u>6,728</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 371,698</u>	<u>\$ 290,914</u>
<b>Liabilities and net assets</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 7,844	\$ 9,073
Accrued vacation	7,878	7,891
Due to affiliates	50,959	39,219
Deferred income	<u>117,016</u>	<u>106,085</u>
Total liabilities	183,697	162,268
<b>Net assets</b>		
Unrestricted net assets	<u>188,001</u>	<u>128,646</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 371,698</u>	<u>\$ 290,914</u>

## National Commission on Orthotic &amp; Prosthetic Education

## Statements of Activities

	Years ended December 31	
	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
<b>Revenue and support</b>		
Residency renewal fees	\$ 246,668	\$ 225,661
Application fees	32,650	27,500
School accreditation fees	9,000	7,500
Contributions	51,000	51,000
Miscellaneous	322	275
Interest and dividends	<u>2,733</u>	<u>1,799</u>
Total revenue	342,373	313,735
<b>Expenses</b>		
Program services:		
Residency accreditation	137,582	128,496
Primary accreditation	130,720	125,754
Governance	<u>18,733</u>	<u>24,119</u>
	<u>287,035</u>	<u>278,369</u>
Change in unrestricted net assets before change in fair value of investments	55,338	35,366
Change in fair value of investments, net	<u>4,017</u>	<u>28,558</u>
Change in unrestricted net assets	59,355	63,924
Net assets, beginning of year	<u>128,646</u>	<u>64,722</u>
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 188,001</u>	<u>\$ 128,646</u>

## Communications: Keeping the Lines Open in 2004

NCOPE continues to make strides in communicating to students, schools, residents and residency programs. NCOPE's effort to communicate with our customers is our top priority. The various forms of communication we use are:

### *Noteworthy*

NCOPE's quarterly newsletter is a quick-to-read, two-page document that is posted on NCOPE's Web site as well as e-mailed in a PDF format to all individuals registered with the Resident Listserve. It provides general information on NCOPE activities, including upcoming events.

### Resident Listserve

NCOPE sponsors a listserv to assist residents during their residency programs. Individuals simply request to be placed on the listserv. NCOPE will post the recent issue of *Noteworthy*, as well as send general reminders concerning submission of quarterly evaluation forms or any general information surrounding the administration of the residency program. Residents are encouraged to use this resource for suggested research topics or to get feedback on projects or other ideas.

### Regional Residency Network

To provide more information and assistance to residents, NCOPE implemented the Regional Residency Network in 2003. The states were divided into eight regions, and NCOPE identified certified practitioners who have been educated under the residency system to serve as network directors. Residents and residency directors are encouraged to use the network directors as a resource to assist in any questions or concerns they may have concerning residency. A map with the regions and e-mail addresses for all the network directors can be found at [www.ncope.org](http://www.ncope.org)

### Resident Status Reports

In 2004, NCOPE created and provided to all registered residents a report that identified each individual's current status. It communicates to the residents what information NCOPE has on file and what information is not on file. These reports are also provided to the Regional Residency Network directors. It is NCOPE's goal to provide these to the resident at least twice during the 12-month residency.



## NCOPE Web site

NCOPE's Web site includes a fresh, sharp design that makes navigation and searching for information much easier. NCOPE wanted to provide useful information and resource materials online. Highlights of the Web site include:

- A map highlighting the regions and network directors for the Regional Residency Network program.
- E-mail addresses for the network directors.
- A map to enable quick searching of currently accredited residency sites.
- Information to sign up for the Resident Listserve.
- Current and previous copies of *Noteworthy*.
- All forms associated and needed for the residency program.
- List of all accredited O&P education programs.

For further information, visit NCOPE at [www.ncope.org](http://www.ncope.org).

**NCOPE**  
National Commission on Orthotic  
& Prosthetic Education

**EDUCATION:**  
The Foundation of the O&P Profession

The National Commission on Orthotic and Prosthetic Education (NCOPE) is the accreditation body for the orthotics and prosthetics (O&P) profession. As such, its primary mission and obligation is to ensure educational and residency programs meet the minimum standards of quality to prepare individuals to enter the O&P profession.

NCOPE serves in cooperation with the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs ([CAAHEP](#)) for accreditation of educational programs. CAAHEP is a nationally recognized non-profit organization that accredits educational programs in 17 allied health disciplines.

The CAAHEP system currently accredits 1,300 allied health education programs across the nation.

For the latest news from NCOPE, read the [Noteworthy Newsletter](#).

**NCOPE** 330 John Carlyle St., Suite 200 :: Alexandria, VA 22314 :: (703) 836-7114 :: [info@ncope.org](mailto:info@ncope.org)

## 2004 Officers and Commissioners

### Commission

Bryan S. Malas, MHPE, CO  
*Chairman*

Gene Gary-Williams, Ph.D., PT  
*Vice-Chairman/Public Member*

Darrell Clark, CO  
*Secretary/Treasurer*

Donald Shurr, CPO, PT  
*Immediate Past Chair*

William D. Beiswenger, CPO, FAAOP  
Michael Oros, CPO  
R. Michael Russell, CPO, FAAOP  
C. Michael Schuch, CPO, FAAOP  
Mark K. Taylor, CPO  
Steven R. Whiteside, CO, FAAOP  
Ann Yamane, CO

Robin C. Seabrook  
*Executive Director*

# NCOPE

### *NCOPE Staff*

Robin C. Seabrook, executive director  
Julie C. McMahon, residency coordinator

*Active Committee Roster*

***ABC/NCOPE Liaison Committee***

R. Michael Russell, CPO, FAAOP – chair  
 William J. Barringer, CO, FAAOP  
 William Beiswenger, CPO, FAAOP  
 Mark Taylor, CPO  
 Steven R. Whiteside, CO, FAAOP

***Ad Hoc Education Conference Committee***

William J. Barringer, CO, FAAOP – chair  
 Gene Gary-Williams, Ph.D., PT  
 Robert S. Lin, CPO, FAAOP  
 Michael Brncick, CPO  
 Scott Cummings, CPO, PT

***Finance Committee***

Bryan Malas, CO – chair  
 Gene Gary-Williams, Ph.D., PT  
 Darrell Clark, CO

***Outcomes Committee***

Grover “Buddy” Jeffcoat, CO – chair  
 Bryan S. Malas, CO  
 Ann Yamane, CO  
 Marj Reif, PA-C, CMA  
 Gene Gary-Williams, Ph.D.  
 Timothy Bulgarelli, CPO (ABC Rep)

***Regional Residency Network***

Jennifer Richards, CO (Region 4) – chair  
 Edwin Hassler, CPO (Region 1)  
 Sarah Brouwer, CO (Region 2)  
 Jonathan Day, CPO (Region 3)  
 Nadine Bourg, CO (Region 5)  
 Mark Clary, CO (Region 6)  
 Joe Terpenning, CO (Region 7)  
 Bill Lifford, CPO (Region 8)



*Photo Courtesy of California State*



*Photo Courtesy of Georgia Tech*

*Residency Accreditation Committee*

Mark Taylor, CPO – chair

William Beiswenger, CPO, FAAOP

Glenn Matsushima, CPO

John Moyd, CPO

Michael Oros, CPO

Steven R. Whiteside, CO, FAAOP

*Self-Study Review Committee*

Susan Kapp, CPO – chair

John Ferguson, CPO

Scott Hornbeak, CPO

Tom Karolewski, CP



*Photo Courtesy of Median School*

**Commission on Accreditation**  
of Allied Health Education Programs



NCOPE is a nonprofit national organization that works in cooperation with the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Accreditation Programs (CAAHEP) in accreditation activities for educational programs for the orthotics and prosthetics profession. NCOPE also accredits residency programs.



*Photo Courtesy of California State*

# NCOPE

330 John Carlyle St., Ste. 200  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
(703)836-7114, ext. 237  
info@ncope.org  
www.ncope.org