

IBCE Teleconference

August 18, 2015

Dr. Salvatore LaRusso, Chair of the International Affairs Committee, called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm MDT.

Dr. Martin Kollasch relayed news from Dr. Carol Mwendwa that the Kenyan program is starting on schedule, expecting to take its first students in a year. There has been discussion regarding a program in Ethiopia and reports of sub-standard practices elsewhere. The Kenyan program is affiliated with a good university in Nairobi.

Dr. John Hyland (and Dr. Margaret Seron) arrived in Chile on August 18. Initially, they met with Dr. David Lopez and Dr. Bernardo Morales, the Dean of the Health Sciences faculty at the Universidad Central. This group was interested in being able to measure their students, and prove to the Chilean Health Ministry that the UCentral students are being trained to international standards. They see the IBCE exam as useful in attaining government recognition. Dr. Lopez and Chilean Chiropractic Corporation (CQCH) President Dr. Raul Guiñez are planning a conference in October; this will be a good time to announce their consideration of the IBCE exam and plan the next steps.

Dr. Hyland then flew to Argentina where Dr. Seron presented a radiology seminar and they administered the pilot IBCE exam in Spanish at the Universidad Nacional de Cordoba. Administration of the exam will assist the chiropractic program leadership to make a comparison of their students and other graduates in Argentina to U.S. and international standards. This project will also help the IBCE to fine-tune the Spanish translation of the exam and promote its availability to other Spanish-speaking countries.

1) David Chapman-Smith (IBCE Advisor – WFC)

David Chapman-Smith attended the WFC Athens Congress, then went to Istanbul, along with the Turkish chiropractic president. Mr. Chapman-Smith also reported that the Kenyan project arose from successful meetings a year ago on the campus of Kenyatta University. The university's dean of medicine came to WFC meeting in Miami last year and attended the WFC Athens conference; however, progress has not been as quick as expected. The advisors recommend that the IBCE support that program to become a model for the rest of Africa. There is some concern about the proposed program in Ethiopia. The African Union and the WFC feel that if the IBCE can help establish a major program in east Africa (Kenya) by fall 2016, it will encourage other areas on the continent.

2) Gerard Clum, D.C. (IBCE Advisor – USA)

Dr. Clum reported that Life University has an effort underway in Italy to establish a branch campus, using the same curriculum as in Atlanta. This would allow qualified American students to attend, with license eligibility in the U.S. A new program being proposed in Costa Rica, beginning September 2016, also appears to be viable. A third area of activity is in Beijing, with Shangway University. Dr. David Bellin (along with four or five other chiropractors) is working through the university and with one other university. This appears to be moving well.

3) Kei Takeyachi, D.C. (IBCE Advisor - Japan)

A written report from Dr. Takeyachi stated that he is working to make the Japanese voluntary register more solid with the government, and preparing to present it to the health ministry. Dr. Takeyachi also reported on a technical issue with international terminology regarding chiropractic, and that a new form of the IBCE Japanese exam is being developed, with more forms to come as the program grows.

4) HanSuk Jung, D.C. (IBCE Advisor – Korea)

Dr. Jung reported that, thanks to Drs. Hyland and Kollasch, the first Korean Chiropractic Register exam (modeled after the Japanese Chiropractic Register exam) should be available next March. There is a new Chiropractic Standardization Conversion program (CSC) by the International Institute of Health Sciences . The biggest hurdle concerns use of the English language. The IBCE has asked for course material to check preparedness for the IBCE exam. The Korean government is doing some research and meeting with first level chiropractors in Korea.

Question – Has the International Institute of Health Sciences approached CCEA for accreditation of their CSC program? Answer: The IBCE hasn't heard anything back; apparently they haven't applied.

Question - Is the Korean Chiropractors Association interested in graduates from the standardized course being eligible for the new registry? Is their education at that level or do we know yet? When the standardization course gets up and running, they will have to prove their eligibility. Answer: The IBCE will ask the CCEA about the program.

6) Phil McMaster, D.C. (IBCE Advisor – New Zealand)

Dr. McMaster reported on New Zealand and Australia. New Zealand College of Chiropractic has administered an exam on behalf of the CCEA, for the first time in its history. CCEA suffices for registry in New Zealand and Australia. Previously, New Zealand had been out of step with the Australian states' registry, and continued to do its own board exam. In addition to the New Zealand exam, applicants can take the exam at Murdoch in November and McQuarrie in January or February. Anyone who has passed this exam is able to practice in NZ and Australia. The NZ chiropractic board is happy with this new arrangement.

Chiropractic is doing well in NZ; Australian chiropractors have challenges on their hands. Friends of Science, etc., have drawn attention to some subject matter that has put the heat on them; e.g., vaccination issues, pediatric issues etc. These external influences are creating internal chiropractic conflict within Australia.

7) Sira Borges, M.D., D.C. (IBCE Advisor – FLAQ)

Dr. Borges visited Argentina in March for a meeting about the Universidad Nacional de Cordoba program, and the plan to move from the 600 hour course to a conversion program, a second degree program. They are interested in having the IBCE evaluate the level of knowledge they currently have and help them focus on areas that are weak. Dr. John Hyland and Dr. Peg Seron administered the IBCE exam in Spanish there, along with a seminar by Dr. Seron. There is good participation in Argentina. There are three different groups in Argentina, and all will participate in the IBCE exam. The UNC will start the program in two years, then do another exam before graduation. We will work with the new program in 2-3 years.

Chile has been skeptical about meeting international standards; but now they appear to be moving in the direction of accepting WHO guidelines. Dr. Borges has proposed a meeting to see if a program can be done.

8) Stathis Papadopoulos, D.C. (IBCE Advisor – Cyprus)

Dr. Papadopoulos shared more information about the program starting in Istanbul on September 4. This is a master's program at EAU University, a commercial program and would be designed for the first session to train doctors. In Tbilisi, Georgia, there is also a new chiropractic program. This was recently signed between the ECU and the TSM University, it is also a master's program. A formal presentation was made during an ECU meeting there.

The next international conference in the region is a WFC Council meeting in Dubai next year, date pending. There were plans for a program in Dubai last year that didn't materialize, but there appears to be a second opportunity now.

9) Susan King, D.C. (IBCE Advisor – New Zealand)

Dr. King expressed disappointment about Dr. McMaster's report that the chiropractic profession in Australia is facing significant challenges. She commented that the United Kingdom had the same experience a few years ago and that it was quite sad and expensive for chiropractors there.

She then reviewed the history of the efforts for a chiropractic program in Norway over the years. There is apparently a new attempt to get one started, and it may be some of the same players. There could be opportunities for the IBCE with this new program.

Dr. Kollasch will make direct contact with the Norway program; they do not have approved funding. Europe and Scandinavia are real challenges for the IBCE. There are more opportunities in the developing areas but it still would be good for IBCE to maintain contact regarding new European and Scandinavian programs.

10) Other discussion

Barcelona school accreditation update: There is ongoing discussion with ECCE regarding program content and clinical training leading into practice; issues with curriculum requirements remain. They have been trying for many years; they agreed to bring their curriculum in line, and it hasn't happened. In the UK, the General Chiropractic Council accredited the McTimoney program, but its graduates are not recognized when they move out of the UK. This is a difficult political situation.

Spain does not have a law for chiropractic. The profession will try to standardize itself within Spain. IBCE could provide a very useful pathway to regulated environment. The IBCE will talk to Dr. Fujikawa regarding the use of a standard competency exam.

Dr. Clum expressed his views on the accreditation attempts by the McTimoney and Barcelona programs. McTimoney is in the process of appealing the decision of ECCE. There are several Issues associated with the appeal. There appear to be differences in curriculum, but we don't know if they are deficiencies.

Dr. King stated that Barcelona is resubmitting its application within time frames given. They will need a lot of support and review before receiving unconditional accreditation by ECCE. The Barcelona program, if they have an international partner, could probably benefit from accredited institutions.

Dr. Fujikawa is a tremendous ally; he could offer a lot of advice and support in Europe. IBCE could reach out to Drs. Fujikawa and Wenban for updates, and to see how we could be involved, and/or assist. Dr. Kollasch will follow up.

Dr. LaRusso stated that we are moving to our goals of involving the IBCE, where we can participate and integrate our products, and in between our meetings, involve us on these integrated products.

Dr. LaRusso asked advisors to keep the IBCE informed on what is happening in their regions and reminded everyone to keep the IBCE's services in mind. We will post this info to IBCE website; please visit regularly for updates. The next IBCE conference call will be after the first of the year; we will confirm date with BOD.

IBCE advisors unable to attend:

David Bellin, D.C.

Ricardo Fujikawa, M.D.,D.C.

Carol Mwendwa, D.C.

Philip Santiago, D.C.

Kei Takeyachi, D.C.