

The ACNM DOA Annual Report 2001

Division of Accreditation (DOA)

The Division of Accreditation (DOA) is the official accrediting body of ACNM that plans, implements and evaluates the accreditation process for nurse-midwifery and midwifery education programs in order to ensure and enhance their quality and encourage their continuous improvement.

The DOA Advisory Committee sought support for the DOA petition for renewal of recognition and expansion of scope for education of the non-nurse by the U.S. Department of Education. Ezra Davidson, M.D., ended ten years of DOA service, and Laura Riley, M.D. was welcomed as his successor. The Board of Review, which makes decisions on the accreditation status of nurse-midwifery/midwifery education programs; and the Governing Board met regularly.

The Site Visitors Panel completed visits to scheduled programs and confirmed visitors for eight comprehensive reviews scheduled during the spring 2002.

At the 2001 annual meeting, the DOA presented two workshops: The Orientation to the DOA and how to satisfy BOR criteria; and a workshop and orientation for members of the Site Visitors' Panel.

The DOA responded to inquiries for supplementary information from the U.S. Department of Education by revising Criterion IV.C. in the preaccreditation and accreditation documents and by revising the policy for obtaining additional information from programs after the site visit and before the Board of Review meeting.

The DOA continued to attend and participate in the Alliance for Nursing Accreditation meetings.

Planning began for the contribution the DOA will make at the ACNM's 50th anniversary annual meeting, as well.

Major Accomplishment: With Betty Carrington, Helen V. Burst, and Lily Hsia in attendance, the DOA received a unanimous recommendation to the Secretary for renewal of recognition for five years and expansion of scope to accredit non-nurse direct entry midwifery programs from the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity.

The DOA agreed to investigate the process of becoming an institutional accrediting body in addition to continuing as a programmatic accrediting body recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.