

## **DOA Annual Report 2003**

### **Division of Accreditation**

The purpose of the DOA is to plan, implement, evaluate and monitor the accreditation process of nurse-midwifery and midwifery education programs.

During 2003 the DOA completed revision of three DOA documents, *Criteria for Programmatic Accreditation* and the *Criteria for Programmatic Preaccreditation of Education Programs in Nurse-Midwifery and Midwifery*, and the *DOA Policies and Procedures Manual*. The DOA requested and received wide input from stakeholders regarding the revision of these documents. The DOA is required by the US Department of Education to revise its documents every five years.

With support from the ACNM membership organization and the A.C.N.M. Foundation, the DOA Governing Board decided that the DOA will apply for institutional as well as programmatic accreditation recognition at the next petition submission to the U.S. Department of Education in 2005. The primary rationale for this decision is to enable expansion of the midwifery profession in the US. The DOA has studied this issue since 2001.

The DOA conducted seven comprehensive education program accreditation reviews, one preaccreditation review, reviewed annual monitoring reports from 45 education programs and conducted the necessary follow up.

Two education programs closed during 2003.

The Chair, DOA participated in two Alliance for Nursing Accreditation meetings. DOA representatives attended a Center for Quality Assurance in International Education (CQAIE) meeting and a Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) meeting.