

## Division of Accreditation

The Division of Accreditation (DOA) is the official accrediting body of the ACNM. The purpose of the DOA is to plan, implement and evaluate the accreditation process of midwifery education programs in order to ensure and enhance their quality.

The Division's Governing Board accomplished much during the fiscal year. Program Profiles, which includes a directory of the accredited nurse-midwifery and midwifery education programs, was published this year. It replaces the annual directory which was published in the Journal of Nurse-Midwifery. Instead, a short version listing the accredited programs will be printed in the Journal.

The Governing Board also agreed to participate in the Alliance for Nursing Accreditation which was initiated by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. The DOA reached an agreement that assured that involvement with the Alliance would acknowledge and respect the autonomy and integrity of the DOA.

A progress report written by DOA Chair Helen Varney Burst was accepted by the U.S. Department of Education review committee with the understanding that the next full review would include the outcome data regarding ACC pass rates which the DOA can now obtain from the annual monitoring reports from the programs.

Other DOA Governing Board accomplishments included initiating a five-year cycle of the review of accreditation criteria. Elizabeth Sharp ended her term as site visitor coordinator and handed the post to Teresa Marsico.

The DOA Advisory Committee met to review and discuss DOA activities.

Expressions of appreciation were given to Sylvia Hart, RN, PhD and Carl Miller, RN, DNSc for their many years of service to the ACNM DOA as their terms of appointment as members of the Advisory Committee, representing nursing and education respectively, ended.

The DOA Board of Review met twice during the fiscal year and as of August 31, 1997, there were 50 accredited nurse-midwifery and midwifery education programs. Forty-seven of the programs were basic nurse-midwifery programs, one was a basic midwifery program and two were precertification programs. Of the 50 accredited programs, 11 held preaccreditation status.