

The Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education Annual Report 2013

The Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education (ACME) is an autonomous body that is responsible for accreditation of midwifery programs that meet established quality standards. Recognized by the US Department of Education (USDE) since 1982, the goals of ACME include fostering the development and improvement in the quality of midwifery education and assuring that the highest standards of professional competence are maintained. ACME accomplishes these goals through a peer review process. It currently accredits 39 programs at colleges and universities across the US and Puerto Rico. ACME is a sister organization to American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM). The ACNM by-laws secure ACME's independence in all aspects of accreditation. ACME is governed by a Board of Commissioners (BOC), which implements its work via a Site Visitor Panel, the Board of Review (BOR) and Advisory Committee. The ACME offices are in Silver Spring, Maryland. More information may be found at: <http://www.midwife.org/Accreditation>

Some highlights of 2013 include:

- ACME BOR, the body of ACME that reviews nurse-midwifery and midwifery education programs and makes decisions regarding preaccreditation and accreditation status, met in 2013 via teleconference on January 19th and 30th, and in person July 13th. The following actions were taken:
 - Initial accreditation was granted to Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center to February 2018.
 - Continued accreditation was granted to Wayne State University to February 2023, and San Diego State University to February 2023.
 - Accepted the University of Kansas mandatory progress report and approved the substantive change to the DNP degree.
- ACME BOC, the governing board members who plan, implement, and evaluate the accreditation process for programs offering midwifery education, held monthly business meetings. In addition, they attended several professional association meetings related to accreditation and midwifery education including:
 - Association of Specialized & Professional Accreditors conference (ASPA)
 - American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AANC)

- American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) Annual Meeting held in May 2013 in Nashville, TN
- ACNM/The American Midwifery Certification Board (AMCB)/ACME – 2nd annual meeting of these three groups
- Licensure, Accreditation, Certification, and Education (LACE), Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Consensus Work Group
- US Midwifery Education Regulation Association (US MERA) work group
- ACME continues to explore international midwifery accreditation. In 2013 ACME conducted a gap analysis or comparison of ACME's pre/accreditation criteria and the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) Global Education Standards.
- In November 2013, ACME made a major improvement to the operations of the organization and hired its first Executive Director, Heather L. Maurer, MA. This decision was made to expand ACME's capacity and effectiveness in operations and to improve service to our constituents. Heather holds a BA in Journalism and an MA in Public Communications with over 19 years experience managing and improving operational effectiveness for various organizations. She has been an avid supporter of midwifery and birthed her baby into the hands of a midwife.

Many thanks are due to the dedicated volunteers who devote their time and expertise as members of the BOC, BOR, Site Visitor Panel, and Advisory Board.

Susan E. Stone, CNM, DNSc, FACNM, FAAN
Chair, Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education

ACME Board of Commissioners Members

Susan E. Stone, CNM, DNSc, FACNM, FAAN 11/05-11/14

Chair, ACME (5/11 - 5/14)

Katherine C. Carr, CNM, PhD, ARNP, CNM, FACNM 11/09-11/12

Vice Chair, ACME (6/12-6/13)

Suzanne Schechter, CNM, MS, FACNM (5/11-5/14)

Treasurer, ACME (11/13-11/14)

Carol Gisselquist, MA, *Member of the Public* 5/06-5/16

Kerri D. Schuiling, PhD, CNM, FACNM 5/09-5/13

Sally A. Tom, CNM, EDM, FACNM 10/07-5/16

Coordinator, Site Visitor Panel 1/08–1/14

Linda Nanni, CNM, MSN

Liaison from ACNM Board of Directors 1/12– 6/13

Joan Slager, CNM, DNP, CPC, FACM

Liaison from ACNM Board of Directors 6/13-6/14