



ACNM BOD/Staff Response #1 to 2015 Student Report

Thank you for your considerate and thoughtful Student Report. We honor your opinions and are excited about working with you in making the College a place where students feel included and supported. We will respond to the five sections in your report below. We appreciate your suggestions for optimizing midwifery education, promoting diversification, and supporting students and new graduates.

The ACNM Board of Directors (BOD) reviewed the Student Report in detail at their July 1, 2015 meeting and made the following decisions to address every item in the 2015 Student Report:

Inconsistent Student Training

The ACNM BOD will ask the Directors of Midwifery Education (DOME) to discuss the topic of inconsistent student training at their next meeting. The BOD will also ask the Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education (ACME) to discuss inconsistent student training and education on primary care, pregnancy loss and LGBTQ health as this relates to the core competencies of midwifery education. The Student and New Midwives Section (SANMS) of the Division of Education (DOE) will provide additional information to both DOME and ACME about these concerns as they have been discussed by students. Both DOME and ACME will be asked to respond to these requests by the November BOD meeting.

Diversification and Inclusion

The Diversification and Inclusion Task Force has reviewed this section of the 2015 Student Report at their meeting on July 7th, 2015, and will continue the discussion regarding these suggestions at future meetings. The D & I task force and the BOD are committed to developing a detailed strategy to increase diversity and inclusion within the ACNM. The Board has requested the D & I task force to respond by the next board meeting in November.

Student Membership

The Board will ask the Membership Committee to discuss membership and conference fees for students at their next meeting. The BOD will ask the ACNM Foundation to review the students' suggestions regarding the advertisement of scholarship opportunities in collaboration with ACNM. The student representative to the BOD, in collaboration with the leaders of SANMS, will continue to develop and offer webinars for students with the aim of educating students on the structure of ACNM, the benefits of membership, and encouraging students to get involved in ACNM. The Board will request the Membership Committee and the ACNM Foundation to respond by the next board meeting in November.

Preceptors

The Board will ask the Division of Education (DOE) to continue the ongoing discussion of recruiting more preceptors at their next meeting. The Board will also ask the Business Section of the Division of Standards and Practices (DOSP) to review the requests of the students regarding preceptors. Regional representatives have also been asked to discuss these topics at the regional level. The Board will request the DOE and DOSP to respond by the next board meeting in November.

Employment Opportunities

The board has asked Salvador Chairez, Director of Membership for ACNM, to review the topic of charging for job postings on the ACNM website. The ACNM Council of Fellows will be asked to review the students' request for mentorship opportunities. The Board has requested Mr. Chairez and will ask the ACNM Council of Fellows to respond by the next BOD meeting in November.

Once again, thank you for your thoughtful report. The BOD and ACNM Staff will give you another update after the November BOD meeting so you can see the progress of your recommendations. Best of luck this semester; we are excited for you to join us in this amazing profession.

Best,
The ACNM Board of Directors and Staff
July 2015