The Council on Podiatric Medical Education (CPME or Council) held its fall meeting in Tempe, Arizona October 15, 2021. The recommendations emanating from Council committees, which completed their deliberations at meetings and conference calls held from September-October, constitute the majority of each CPME agenda and include the review of annual reports and progress reports from the colleges of podiatric medicine. The Continuing Education Committee and the Residency Review Committee held their meetings in September and the Accreditation Committee, Budget Planning and Executive Committees met in October.

The Council updated the CPME Bylaws and CPME Policies document at the October 2021 meeting to add the Joint Committee on the Recognition of Specialty Boards (JCRSB) as a standing committee of the Council with an interim policy created to conform with the newly adopted CPME Bylaws. The interim policy will remain in effect until the underlying JCRSB documents, CPME 220 Criteria and Guidelines for Recognition of a Specialty Board for Podiatric Medical Practice and CPME 230 Procedures for Recognition of a Specialty Board for Podiatric Medical Practice, can be revised and updated to reflect the new CPME/JCRSB Bylaw revisions including its membership. To reflect that the JCRSB is now a standing committee of the Council, the Council determined that the name of the JCRSB will be changed to the Specialty Board Recognition Committee (SBRC) and that the Council should initiate the name change immediately. The updated CPME Bylaws and CPME Policy document can be found at www.cpme.org.

Additional Bylaw revisions were reviewed and approved at the meeting and are eligible for adoption at the spring meeting of the Council to address clarification of the appointment process to the Ad Hoc Appeals Committee to match the process as documented in CPME 935b, moving the Nominating Committee to a standing committee of the Council and clarifying its procedures and membership, modifying the composition of the Residency Review Committee, modifying the language concerning reporting to the APMA, and modifying the language concerning CREC membership.

Following a call for comment period from the community of interest, CPME has adopted the revisions to CPME 120 Standards and Requirements for Accrediting Colleges of Podiatric Medicine, CPME 130 Procedures for Accrediting Colleges of Podiatric Medicine, CPME 935a Guidelines for the Conduct of Appeals by Colleges of Podiatric Medicine, and CPME 935b Guidelines for the Conduct of Appeals by Residencies, Fellowships, Providers of Continuing Education, and Specialty Boards. The revised documents go into effect immediately and can be found at www.cpme.org.
The Council is continuing with its revision of CPME 320 *Standards and Requirements for Approval of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery Residencies* and CPME 330 *Procedures for Approval of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery Residencies*. At its April 2021 meeting, the Council agreed to send Draft I of the CPME 320 and CPME 330 documents back to the Residency Ad Hoc Committee to create Draft II.

The ad hoc committee met in person September 25-26 and created Draft II of these documents. Draft II is expected to be submitted to the Council at its April 2022 meeting.

At the October CPME meeting, Drs. Keith Cook and John Marcoux were installed for their first one-year terms as chair and vice-chair, respectively, of the Council and re-elected to their third three-year term as at-large members of the Council. Dr. Alyssa Stephenson was elected to her second three-year term as an at-large member of the Council and Dr. Susan Stapleton was elected to her second three-year term as the postsecondary educator representative on CPME. Dr. Robert Joseph was elected to his first three-year term as an at-large member of the Council and replaces Dr. Kieran Mahan who retired from the Council following distinguished service to CPME.

Keith Cook, DPM is the program director for the podiatric residency sponsored by University Hospital, Newark, NJ. Dr. Cook has served as a residency evaluator and a college evaluator, the chair of the Residency Ad Hoc Committee, and as a member of the Residency Review Committee.

John T. Marcoux, DPM is a faculty member at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, MA and serves as a residency evaluator and as the chair of the Residency Review Committee.

Susan Stapleton, PhD is a research professor in the Department of Chemistry at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Dr. Stapleton currently serves as a member of the Accreditation Committee and as a college evaluator.

Alyssa Stephenson, DPM is a podiatrist at the Carl T. Hayden Veterans’ Administration Medical Center. Dr. Stephenson has served as a member of the Ad Hoc Committee for review of college documents and currently serves as the chair of the JCRSB, a member of the Continuing Education Committee, and as a residency evaluator.

Robert Joseph, DPM, PhD is an Associate Professor at the Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine & Science in Chicago, IL. Dr. Joseph serves as a member of the Accreditation Committee and as a college and residency evaluator.
During its October meeting, the Council approved the recommendation of the Residency Review Committee that in light of the continued pandemic, on-site evaluations in the spring may be conducted virtually, in person, or hybrid, based on risk-stratification.

The Council took the following accreditation action at its October 2021 meeting:

**California School of Podiatric Medicine at Samuel Merritt University (CSPM)** - At its October 2021 meeting, the Accreditation Committee and Council reviewed and granted approval of the substantive change request for CSPM (as part of Samuel Merritt University) to disaffiliate from Sutter Health. CPM will conduct the required on-site evaluation to be held in conjunction with the June 13-16, 2022, reaccreditation site visit as the substantive change will not become operational until early 2022.

**Residency and Fellowship Actions**

Residency actions at the October 2021 CPME meeting included the following. (Please see pages in pages 13-17 of the July 2015 version of CPME 330, Procedures for Approval of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery Residencies, at www.cpme.org for definitions of the following categories of approval.)

- Sustain to Withdraw Approval – 0
- Withdrawal of Approval – 0
- Probationary Approval – 3
- Approval – 10
- Approval with additional information requested – 19
- Provisional Approval - 0

**Continuing Education Activities and Actions**

Continuing Education actions taken at the October 2021 meeting of the Council include the following:

- Approval with additional information requested – 4
- Approval of New Provider – 1
- Probationary Approval – 4
- Voluntary Termination – 0
Blue Ribbon Panel Update

The Council’s Blue-Ribbon Panel for Milestone Education in Podiatric Medicine and Surgery Residencies (Panel) is scheduled to meet for the first time December 17-18, 2021. This panel of experts in competency-based assessment and education is comprised of members of the academic, podiatric, and graduate medical education communities.

The charge of the Panel, as delegated by the Council, is as follows:

- Study clinical competency and milestones
- Develop a recommendation to the Council on the educational benefit and implementation of milestones in residencies in podiatric medicine and surgery, given the variety of resources available at the sponsoring institutions of these programs
- Create milestones for podiatric medicine and podiatric surgery and determine the best way to implement these in podiatric residency programs with different levels of resources

In addition to the above, the Panel is encouraged to create recommendations on how to train faculty in the use of these milestones. A full list of Panel members is available on the Council’s website.

CPME Fellowship Document Rewrite

On a regularly scheduled basis, CPME reviews and, when appropriate, revises the requirements and procedures associated with various evaluation activities. The Council has initiated a review of publications related to fellowship evaluation and approval, CPME 820 Standards and Requirements for Approval of Podiatric Fellowships and CPME 830 Procedures for Approval of Podiatric Fellowships. The Council anticipates the review process will take 12-24 months.

The Ad Hoc Advisory Committee members broadly represent the communities of interest related to fellowship education and have been selected with the belief that they will provide thoughtful analysis and insight into the needed evolution of fellowship training, in coordination with the goals and the interests of the profession. A full list of Panel members is available on the Council’s website.

An initial survey to the community of interest was disseminated in July 2021 and was open until September 30, 2021. The Committee will have its first meeting in Winter 2022.

Public Notice: Call for Third-Party Comments

In accordance with CPME procedures, interested individuals or institutions are invited to submit third-party comments with respect to the Council’s standards and requirements concerning the application of a new school of podiatric medicine at the University of Texas at Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV) in Edinburg, Texas. The Council will take into consideration all comments received by January 1, 2022, as part of the school’s on-site evaluation scheduled for January 24-26, 2022. Comments must relate specifically to the
Council’s requirements as published in CPME 120, *Standards and Requirements for Accrediting Colleges of Podiatric Medicine*, which may be obtained at [www.cpme.org](http://www.cpme.org).

Signed comments received by the Council will be shared with the institution and members of the evaluation team prior to the visit. The institution is notified of third-party comments so it may have opportunity to respond. The Council will exercise its best efforts to keep confidential the identity of an individual or entity who submits a comment, unless the person or entity has specified in writing that it is permissible to reveal his/her/its identity. If confidentiality is appropriate, all correspondence with the institution will maintain this confidentiality. During its review of the school, the evaluation team considers third-party comments, if any, that relate to the accreditation standards.

Please submit third-party comments to:

Heather Stagliano, Director  
Council on Podiatric Medical Education  
[hmstagliano@cpme.org](mailto:hmstagliano@cpme.org)