Dear CAOHC Course Directors:

Spring is in the air - time to clean out the old and start anew. Just like spring, CAOHC has spent some time doing cleaning of its own. This issue of CABLE will inform you of what CAOHC is doing to freshen up some of its old products and create new ones.

Kim Stanton, CAE
Executive Director

Upcoming Course Director Workshops

Friday, November 4, 2016
Indianapolis, IN
Location and hotel (TBD)

Wednesday, February 22, 2017
Marriott Rivercenter
San Antonio, TX

See the CAOHC website for registration details

Spring Training

Each February CAOHC conducts two Course Director workshops, one in conjunction with NHCA and another coupled with JDVAC. This year our CD workshop coaches, led by Andy Merkley, decided to change up the workshop agenda to bring new life and new ideas to the workshop curriculum.

In January the team of Andy Merkley, Laurie Wells, Ted Madison, Vickie Tuten, Kathy Gates, Tom Hutchison, Nancy Green and Pam duPont rallied to revise the current agenda to focus more on adult learning principles and provide instruction on “how to teach” adults rather than “what to teach” adults as it relates to topics from the OHC Standardized Exam blueprint. The new agenda was launched during both of the February workshops in front of a crowd of 57 (total of both workshops) that added 12 new Course Directors to our line-up.

Continued on next page.
Our new civilian CDs include:
Luke Grossi, Enviromed Corp.
Gary Jones, Industrial Hearing & Pulmonary Management, Inc.
Aaron Johnson, Johnson Hearing Services PC
Diane Stewart, SWC HealthWorks, Inc.
Brek Stoker, Complete Care Audiology, Inc.

DoD new CDs include:
Daniel Williams, US Airforce
Kwame Curtis, US Airforce
Susan Fletcher, Branch Medical Health Clinic
Troy Johnson, US Army
Maggie McCarthy, US Navy
Gary Rosonett, US Navy
Matthew Thomas, US Navy

The JDVAC course also provides instruction to 4th year AuD students to prepare them to become CDs when all remaining qualifications are met. Those DoD students include:
Julianne Ceruti, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center
Jason Danford, Naval Medical Center Portsmouth
Patrick Pead, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center
Angela Russo, US Army
Stacie Ueckert, Walter Reed National Medical Center

Congratulations to all, and thank you for your service and dedication to the prevention of noise-induced hearing loss.

Special Announcement:

CAOHC’s OHC Standardized exam is now available in Spanish
Both the Certification and Recertification exam are now available for your use in Spanish in the paper form and online. The exam request form sent by the CAOHC administrative office will now include a space to request Spanish exams if you think they will be needed. You may wish to add a question about language preference on your own course registration forms so that you are adequately prepared.
We received several requests during the NHCA meeting to translate the Study Guide to Spanish as well, and I am happy to say that this project is in the works. Our hope is to have the Study Guide translated by May 1, 2016.

Spring Training, continued...

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Additional CD Workshop changes
Besides a change to the curriculum, the end-of-course exam is no longer a paper test graded in class. The CD exam is now available online. Course Directors, like Professional Supervisors, have 30 days following the workshop to complete the open book and open note exam. A passing score of 80% must be obtained to complete the CD renewal process. CDs will have two attempts to take the exam. If a CD does not receive a passing grade after two attempts, that individual will be required to retake the CD course.

Congratulations and welcome to all of our new CD team members and a special thank you to all who took the time to renew their commitment to CAOHC.
Policy Updates

Course Directors, you have spoken and the Council has listened.

At the November 2015 Council meeting, revisions to two existing policies were proposed and approved.

**Faculty**

**OLD POLICY**

Provide three instructors for each 20-hour certification course. Each instructor must be a representative of one of the nine Component Professional Organizations (CPO) on the CAOHC Council. Each instructor must be physically present unless the pre-approved video is used.

**REVISED POLICY**

Provide the appropriate faculty. The CD must be physically present during the entire course. Practicum assistants must be physically present during the audiometric and hearing protection practica.

- The faculty of the certification course must include a minimum of three different professional disciplines as represented on the CAOHC Council.
- Instruction provided by faculty other than the CD may be presented in teleconference or Skype, webinar, or CAOHC-approved video curriculum.

**Certification Course Schedule**

**OLD POLICY**

An instructor who is physically present at the course shall cover the required topics. A total of 20 contact hours of teaching time is required with minimum required times assigned to each topic as outlined in the policy manual appendix, with the content of 18.5 of those hours specified; the content of the remaining 1.5 hours is at the discretion of the CD but must be teaching time and not break or lunch time. Instruction time shall not exceed 8 hours per day.

**REVISED POLICY**

- Audiometric practicum must be a MINIMUM of 150 minutes (2.5 hours) for the 20-hour course and 60 minutes for the 8-hour course.
- Hearing Protection practicum must be a MINIMUM of 60 minutes for the 20-hour course and 30 minutes for the 8-hour course.

Unlike the audiometric and hearing protection practica, there are no mandatory times assigned to the instruction of the 11 exam domains. Suggested times are provided and encouraged but individual CDs may adjust the schedule according to their needs. Certification courses must include a MINIMUM of 20 hours instruction including all required practicum and examination time. CAOHC, “strongly recommends limiting instruction time to 8 hours per day,” as it may causes a strain on the attention and comprehension of the students, and strain on the instructors as well.

New Products in Development

Last fall CAOHC sent two surveys to Course Directors, one about the redesign of the Anatomy, Physiology and Diseases of the Ear video and another about the creation of a course video focusing on instruction for the domains which include Noise and the Physics of Sound.

I am happy to report that the Anatomy video script has been written and will be moving to the production stage before June. Additionally, Noise Committee members will convene in April to begin script development for the Noise video which will move to production in the fall.

CAOHC would like to thank all of the CDs that provided input for both surveys. We would also like to announce the winners of the Amazon and Starbucks gift cards:

**Anatomy, Physiology and Diseases of the Ear Survey winners:**

- Lynn Cook, U.S. Army
- Michelle Alexander, Workplace Integra
- Richard A. White, U.S. Army Hearing Program
- Mary McDaniel, Pacific Hearing Conservation
- Chris Pavlakos, Chris Pavlakos, PhD & Associates

**Noise and Physics of Sound Survey winners:**

- Tony Miltich, II, Hearing Test Resources LLC
- Tamara Thompson, Exametnics
- Patricia Scharninghausen, U.S. Army Wuerzburg MEDDAC
- Pamela Cronin, South Valley ENT
- Tony Philip, REM Audiology

_Thank you for your input!_
CAOHC required for TX Audiology Assistants

The Texas State Board of Examiners for Speech Language Pathology and Audiology recently approved a change in the Texas rule for licensure of Audiology Assistants. The amendment lowers the educational requirement for a license as an Audiology Assistant from a bachelor’s degree in communication disorders to a high school diploma or equivalent. The change, which became effective on March 20, 2016, also stipulates that applicants for this license must have completed the Council for Accreditation in Occupational Hearing Conservation’s training course for Occupational Hearing Conservationists (OHCs) and successfully passed CAOHC’s OHC examination.

Texas becomes the first state to accept CAOHC’s OHC course curriculum (described on http://www.caohc.org/) as a minimum standardized requirement for Audiolgist Assistants. An Audiolologist Assistant is a person who, after appropriate training and demonstrated competency, performs tasks that are prescribed, directed and supervised by an audiologist. The role of the assistant is to support the audiologist in performing routine tasks and duties so that the audiologist is available for the more complex evaluative, diagnostic, management and treatment required by the level of education and training of a licensed audiologist.

The rule change in Texas may substantially increase interest in attendance of OHC courses. As part of their application process for the Texas Board, OHC’s can provide a copy of their CAOHC certification (downloadable from the CAOHC website, if current), or (if certification is expired) contact the CAOHC administrative office for a document that verifies that the applicant has passed the OHC examination.

For more information about the change in the Texas Administrative Code, part 32, Chapter 741, contact the Texas Board of Examiners at (512)776-6972.

Welcome CAOHC new Administrative Staff

We would like to introduce all of you to two new staff members:

Marina Pappas  
Marketing, Education Program Manager

Marina will be responsible for coordination of all information related to Course Director and Professional Supervisor maintenance and education. Additionally, Marina will work with the Marketing Committee to coordinate all CAOHC marketing efforts.

Sarah Atkins  
Administrative Coordinator

Sarah’s primary responsibilities will focus on the OHC standardized exam, helping Chris with the day-to-day execution and follow-up. Additionally she will provide administrative assistance to both Kim and Marina.

Marina is a full time employee and Sarah is part-time working Tuesday-Friday mornings.

Things to come:

• OHC Standardized Exam statistics  
• Certification Course video updates  
• Advanced Manual update  
• Course Director anniversaries