



THE AUSTRALASIAN
COUNCIL ON
CHIROPRACTIC
EDUCATION
LIMITED
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COUNCIL ON CHIROPRACTIC
EDUCATION AUSTRALASIA INC.

Joint Statement
by
The President, Australasian Council on Chiropractic Education (ACCE)
and
The Chairperson, Council on Chiropractic Education Australasia Inc (CCEA)

We write to inform all chiropractic, educational and other stakeholders and interested parties in Australasia and abroad, of the co-operative attitudes exhibited and the progress being made, by the ACCE and the new CCEA in developing the latter organization towards maturity.

As many will be aware, the CCEA was formally constituted in February 2002, conducted several planning and administrative teleconferences in the ensuing months and held its initial in-person Council meeting in late August 2002. The CCEA immediately established committees to deal with legal and constitutional issues, educational accreditation, competence and standards of practice, overseas qualifications assessment, communication and marketing. A central task is the development of up-to-date standards of accreditation which will be used to evaluate higher education courses in chiropractic. These standards are expected to be completed by mid 2003.

Naturally, there are transitional items in process between ACCE and CCEA which are evolving and still require time for completion, however all concerned are endeavouring to progress these matters as rapidly as possible and with full co-operation and commitment.

An important issue is the reciprocal international recognition of chiropractic degrees. Two-way recognition of accredited academic qualifications is of considerable value to graduate practitioners of chiropractic and to the relevant educational institutions in Australasia and abroad. International reciprocity of recognition is also being actively encouraged in all professions by the Government of Australia through the National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (NOOSR).

ACCE has earned and enjoyed for many years, reciprocal international recognition of accreditations with its counterpart organizations in the United States of America, Canada and Europe, and more recently as a foundation member of The Councils on Chiropractic Education International (CCEI). This international recognition cannot be merely "handed over" by the ACCE, nor can it be given casually by overseas organizations to CCEA. In particular, it is well understood that CCEA has no automatic rights in respect of succeeding ACCE in membership of CCEI. It is fully appreciated that CCEA eventually would need to apply to enter CCEI, that its standards and procedures would have to meet CCEI norms and that only CCEI itself could determine the result of any application for membership made by CCEA.

It becomes imperative, therefore, that ACCE remains in existence and functional until the transition of all responsibilities to CCEA is completed. Equally important and urgent is for stakeholders to continue to provide funding for the ACCE during the period of transition. The CCEA strongly supports these needs and assures stakeholders that the transitional maintenance of the ACCE is necessary to achieve the ultimate good order and effective functioning of the CCEA.

Peter Drake, President ACCE
29 January 2003

Philip Donato, Chairperson CCEA