Greetings from San Diego!

Randy Snyder (MN) presided over his first conference as NAB’s Chairman at the Hard Rock Hotel in downtown San Diego. He welcomed 84 participants, including delegates from 32 state Long Term Care Administrator boards and agencies. State board members, members of academia, continuing education providers and long term care administrators had a productive meeting, discussing the start of the NAB’s professional practice analysis, new research in NHA education and job training, and NAB’s marketing initiatives.

NAB Keynote Speaker: Research Concludes That Management Corresponds with LTC Quality

Dr. Nicholas Castle of the University of Pittsburgh’s Graduate School of Public Health shared the findings of his research during his keynote address in San Diego. Dr. Castle showed how the quality and continuity of top management influenced the quality of overall care within their facilities. His recent research has shown that administrator turnover is associated with a higher-than-average proportion of residents who were catheterized, had pressure ulcers, or were given psychoactive drugs, and with a higher-than-average number of quality-of-care deficiencies. Conversely, he showed that quality care correlates with administrators’ professional development, which in turn lowers the rate of administration turnover within a facility. Furthermore, the results of his research survey showed that facilities whose administrators seek input from the staff and build consensus have the lowest rates of staff turnover. He concluded that administrator continuity—along with education in the field, AIT experience and high scores on the NHA exam—correlate with higher facility ratings. Dr. Castle’s presentation can be found on NAB’s website by clicking here.
NAB Professional Practice Analysis
Steering Committee Chair Katrina Magdon (AL) reported that the professional practice analysis is proceeding as scheduled, with the goal of identifying the domains of practice common throughout the continuum of long term care. The NAB leadership had recently identified an array of stakeholders—organizations, academic institutions, education providers and individual subject matter experts—to invite to participate in the study. Magdon asked state board members and other NAB meeting participants to help circulate nomination forms to recruit content experts to serve in various task force, reviewer, and pilot survey roles in support of the professional practice analysis. Members of the task force will be selected in January 2013; the first task force meeting will be held in March. The nomination forms were distributed mid-November and are due by December 21, 2012; nominations can be submitted through our SurveyMonkey website: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NAB_PA.

Academic Accreditation Renewed for Two Schools
St. Joseph’s College of Maine and the University of Louisiana-Monroe had their academic accreditations renewed at the San Diego meeting. The renewals were recommended by the NAB Education Committee and were approved by the Board of Governors on November 9, 2012. Phil DuBois of St. Joseph’s thanked NAB on behalf of the SJC faculty for the renewal.

committee highlights

BYLAWS COMMITTEE
Chair "Z" Thomas (OK) reported that three bylaws changes will be considered at the February 2013 Executive Committee meeting, and will be presented for approval at the June 2013 Annual Meeting:

- Making Subscribing Members eligible to run for NAB elected offices;
- Strengthening language on proxy voting at Board of Governors meetings;
- Creating a stronger nominating process, including a larger nominating committee.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Chair Jennifer Johs-Artisensi (WI) and Vice Chair Marianna Grachek (MI) announced that PES will change its data collection methods by adding a question on which university prepared the candidate to take the exam. This change will make it easier for NAB to track the exam pass rates of students who have completed programs from NAB-accredited universities. Also, task forces were initiated to review the annual reports of NAB-accredited schools, and to review the academic accreditation process and suggest revisions, including the fee structure, tools for site visitors and electronic application submissions.
CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs Mary Ellen Wilkinson (NV) and Michael Hickey (WA) submitted six continuing education providers for NCERS Certified Sponsor status: Approved NAB CEUs, Inc.; the Copper Ridge Institute; the Institute for Natural Resources; LeadingAge Maryland; Medline Industries; and Redilearning, Inc. They announced the formation of a task force to review the monitoring process of CE courses. The committee also looked at new procedural recommendations, including draft provider attestation and attendee validation forms, as well as language adjustments in the NCERS reviewer job description.

MEMBER RELATIONS AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Chair Margaret McConnell (NV) and Vice Chair Tim Chesney (OH) reported that their committee had broken into four task groups to discuss specific NAB marketing goals. One group discussed ways to enhance meeting attendance and demonstrate the value of NAB programs to state board members and executives. Another deliberated over the image of the profession and how to improve it by addressing various aspects along the continuum of long term care administration. A third group discussed NAB's value proposition—discerning what makes NAB unique and what our competitive advantage over similar organizations is. And the fourth discussed promotion of the professional practice analysis, reviewing a list of interested stakeholders and thinking of ways to enlist their support as the analysis is refined and legislation moves forward to support the new super-credential for LTC administration.

STATE GOVERNANCE AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Chair Lisa Hahn’s (VA) committee broke into three working groups: one to plan for NAB’s new integrated website; one to work with the Professional Practice Analysis and discern how the new concept affects state agencies; and one to investigate how NAB can best support members and boards. She also reported that the committee will be exploring how to expand participation on regional membership conference calls.

NHA EXAM COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs Jonathan Thomas (NC) and Jim Bennett (WA) announced that their exam committee had had a productive item writing session, creating 266 new items and revising 185 more. They also drafted a new job description expectation for new item writers, and they replaced two NHA practice exams with two new exams.

RCAL EXAM COMMITTEE

Chair Del Zook (OR) and Vice Chair Heather Anderson (MI) reported on their committee’s pass point workshop with PES.

Next NAB Meeting

We invite you to join us at our Annual Meeting, June 12-14, 2013 in Seattle. Details will be emailed and posted on www.nabweb.org this winter. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend!