NAB Members Gather in San Francisco, Plan Next Steps for the PPA Rollout

The NAB Mid-Year Meeting, held at the Hilton San Francisco Financial District, was yet another successful gathering, drawing over 90 members, state executives, educators and continuing education providers from across the country. The focus of the meeting was the implementation of the Professional Practice Analysis, understanding the effects it will have among NAB’s various stakeholders and devising strategies to market the new Licensed Health Services Executive credential and overcoming barriers to its roll out.

New Task Forces Initiated in Response to the Practice Analysis

Having adopted the Professional Practice Analysis (PPA) at its last meeting, NAB convened new task forces to help pave the way for the new Licensed Health Services Executive credential over the next two years. These task forces are charged with reviewing NAB’s exams and serving NAB’s various stakeholders as the PPA is implemented.

The PPA Exam Resources Development Task Force, co-chaired by Katrina Magdon (Alabama) and Jim Bennett (Washington), is charged with reviewing the content of NAB’s current licensing exams and study guides. The Task Force will work with experts from all lines of service to determine which item bank questions are “core” questions and which are specialized. They will also work with the academic community to identify specialized content areas from the PPA for use in developing revised criteria for accredited programs, assuring that their graduates will be prepared for the new exams. Working with Redilearning, NAB’s new, user-friendly study guide will be available online by June 2016, melding the current guides’ content with new material, including filmed scenarios.

The PPA Stakeholder Outreach Task Force, chaired by Margaret McConnell (Nevada), will prepare for the PPA roll out over the next two years by developing criteria and parameters for state licensing boards and agencies to use the NAB exams for voluntary credentialing. These criteria will be drafted for presentation to the NAB Executive Committee at its Spring meeting.

The AIT Task Force, a joint effort between NAB and ACHCA, is chaired by Phil DuBois (Maine) and has met regularly over the past year. It is tasked with expanding opportunities for AITs, looking at ways to better market both the AIT experience and the preceptor experience. Among its initiatives are the creation of a “matchmaking service” to connect AITs with preceptors and encouraging state boards to honor AIT hour reciprocity.
NAB Panel Discusses Strategies for Quality Improvement

An esteemed panel of LTC professionals addressed meeting participants, discussing ways administrators can meet QAPI guidelines. From left: Carol Scott, Field Manager, Advancing Excellence in America’s Nursing Homes; Keith Knapp, NAB Chair; Dr. Jane Pederson, Director of Medical Affairs, Stratis Health; Katie Davis, Campus Administrator, Good Samaritan Society; and Sally McKee, Executive Director, Missouri Board of Nursing Home Administrators.

CONTINUING EDUCATION
Chair Michael Hickey (Washington) reported that he committee had created tools to help NCERS sponsors manage the quality process with their attendees, as well as tools for NCERS reviewers to monitor CE programs and document the process. The committee is also working on a training module to help train reviewers. In addition, sixteen NCERS sponsors were conferred certified status:

• American Medical Directors Association
• Association of Jewish Aging Services
• Capozzi Adler
• Chem Rx Pharmacy Services, LLC
• Chesapeake Health Education
• Custom Learning Systems Group Ltd.
• Georgia Health Care Association
• Health Care Information Network
• Irving Levin Associates
• Lutheran Services in America
• Partners Pharmacy
• Pennsylvania Health Care Association
• PESI
• SFCS
• Tennessee Dietary Managers Association
• Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

EDUCATION
Chair Jennifer Johns-Artiseni (Wisconsin) reported that the committee is creating a document on the vetting process of academic accreditation site reviewers. There will also be a task force to integrate the Practice Analysis into accredited program syllabi.

MEMBER RELATIONS AND OUTREACH
Chair Laura Lucas (North Carolina) reported that the committee held breakout sessions related to the implementation of the Practice Analysis. Two groups compiled lists of employer stakeholders to gain buy-in for the Practice Analysis, and their combined efforts resulted in a list of 45 prospective companies. Another group reviewed NAB’s promotional brochures, and concluded that these collaterals need to be updated to convey the most recent Practice Analysis, with a consistent message that aims at the grassroots level.

STATE GOVERNANCE AND REGULATORY ISSUES
Chair Donald Aldridge (New York) reported that the committee meeting focused on the use of the Community Anywhere website as a way to improve communications within the membership. He reported that there should be collaboration between state boards and NAB in relation to the Affordable Care Act. The committee also urged boards to utilize the NAB exam attestation form.
NAB BYLAWS, POLICY CHANGES APPROVED
The NAB Board of Governors voted to approve the following changes to NAB’s Bylaws and Policy:

- **Membership:** Only members of NAB member state boards and their executive director/secretary or the designated employee of a member state administrator licensing authority shall be eligible to hold office, serve on NAB committees, attend NAB meetings at the member rate and vote at the Board of Governors meetings.

- **Bylaws Committee Chairmanship:** The NAB Chair-Elect may hereby chair the Bylaws Committee.

- **Nominations:** Nominations for NAB officers must be received by the Nominations Committee by December 31 of the year prior to the Annual Meeting at which elections are held.

In addition, the following changes to NAB Procedures were approved by the NAB Executive Committee:

- **Bylaws Committee Liaisons:** The vice chairs of each NAB standing committee is designated as a liaison to the Bylaws Committee.

- **Standing Committees:** The NAB Chair shall determine the number of standing members for each standing committee, except where the number of members is prescribed in NAB Bylaws, Policy or Procedures.

STATE EXAM FEES TO INCREASE ON MARCH 1, 2015
State Board Executives, Board Members and Examinees, please note: the Board of Governors ratified an increase in the National State-Based Licensing Exam (NSBL) to $190.00. This change will automatically go into effect on March 1, 2015. NAB member state boards and agencies are urged to publicize notice of this change on their websites and in their informational materials.

NEXT NAB MEETING
We invite you to join us at our 2015 Annual Meeting, June 3-5 in Philadelphia. Details will be emailed and posted on www.nabweb.org in early 2015. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend!