

Spring 1999

FAEMSE NEWS



Newsletter of the Florida Association of Emergency Medical Services Educators

An EMS Educational Sojourn

By Gordy Kokx, Assistant Professor of EMS
Central Florida Community College

June of last year brought with it a rather unexpected opportunity. The CFCC Foundation had donated a week's stay at a time-share to our Teaching Learning Institute. The Institute then in turn offered the donation to a faculty member who could use it for a research project that would ultimately enhance student learning. Along with several other faculty I hopefully submitted a written proposal. The following week brought good news and my proposal was to become a reality.

September found me in a beautiful condominium nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains in Bayse, VA. The three level haven became my "home" for a week as I visited three of the most respected EMS schools in the country. Almost in disbelief I eagerly awaited meeting the people who had written the books and magazine articles I had read throughout my 15 year EMS career.

My first day took me north and west across the beauty of the rolling hills of West Virginia and into the Alleghenies to visit the Center for Emergency Medicine of Western Pennsylvania at the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Walt Stoy, Gregg Margolis, John Dougherty, and the Center's other friendly staff met with me to discuss several topics including how the CFCC paramedic program would meet the challenges of the forthcoming new National Standard Curriculum. In basic terms Gregg said we would be "in pretty good shape," because like all of Florida's Community Colleges, CFCC is a JRC CAAHEP accredited program.

Though no new skills will be required, Gregg explained the biggest curriculum enhancements will be in the areas of pharmacology, anatomy and physiology, and pathophysiology. Programs who will be affected the most by the upcoming changes will be those who offer paramedic education for less than the national average one thousand-hour average range. After our meeting it was clear to me that the new requirements will undoubtedly increase the future paramedic's medical knowledge base while at the same time advance us all as a profession.

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Case-Based BTLS Slides in Development

Basic Trauma Life Support, Inc. of Florida is pleased to announce its progress in developing a case-based teaching package. This supplemental package is currently in development but trial versions are being evaluated at The University of Miami and Broward County Fire Rescue.

The case-based supplement strictly follows the learning objectives of the National BTLS curriculum but adds a greater dimension of participation through an interactive presentation style. Upon first glance, everyone will note the improved visual aids. Redundancy and confusing messages have been replaced with concise and visually attractive slides.

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FAEMSE's mission is to provide resources to individuals and organizations that will foster excellence in EMS education and training.

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An Open Letter to the FAEMSE Membership

American College of Prehospital Medicine

April, 30 1999

Dear FAEMSE Member:

I would like to take a moment to congratulate FAEMSE on its continued practice of serving as the "voice of EMS education" in Florida. Since FAEMSE's creation, the American College of Prehospital Medicine (ACPM) has provided financial and logistical resources in support of your important mission.

ACPM, founded in 1991, provides EMS professionals, military and civilian, an opportunity to complete an accredited undergraduate degree in Emergency Medical Services entirely at distance. No classroom attendance or residency is required. Four events will be occurring with ACPM this year that we feel are notable:

1. The College will be relocating to Florida. We are now in the preliminary stages of being licensed through the Florida Board of Independent Colleges and Universities.
2. We will be completing our reaccreditation with the Accrediting Commission of the Distance Education and Training Council. This is a process that we must go through every five years.
3. We expect that our distance education EMT-Basic program will finally go "live." The initial states in which we expect it will become reality will be Utah, Colorado and Montana, with other states to follow subject to regulatory review by the state EMS offices
4. At the same time we are being reviewed for reaccreditation, we will be having three Masters programs evaluated and hopefully approved: MS in EMS; MS in EMS Administration for Physicians; MS in EMS Administration for Physician Assistants. All three of these programs will come under the direction of Dr. Paul Matera, Annapolis, MD.

To learn more about ACPM, we suggest you visit our website at:
<http://www.acpm.edu/>

Best wishes for the continued success of FAEMSE.

Richard Clinchy, III, BS, Ph.D., EMT-P
Chairman, The American College of Prehospital Medicine

Call for Submissions

Anyone interested in writing for the FAEMSE Newsletter should contact David LaCombe at (305) 243-6491.

Deadline for the summer issue is June 30th, 1999.

News You Can Use



Online Bookstore under Construction

FAEMSE is proud to announce its plan to develop an online bookstore. The virtual bookstore will enable members and guests to browse and order EMS texts commonly used in Florida's programs.

Benefits of FAEMSE Bookstore:

- ◆ Convenient 24 hour shopping.
- ◆ Secure ordering process.
- ◆ Special orders not a problem.
- ◆ You save up to 10 % off the already discounted prices.
- ◆ Each product ordered from our Bookstore deposits a small commission in FAEMSE's operating account (helps us grow to serve you better).

The Bookstore will be operational sometime in early May. FAEMSE's partners in this endeavor include MERGInet Medical Resources and Emergency Training Associates.

Medical Practice Guideline for Acute Stroke Released

The Agency for Healthcare Administration, in liaison with the Florida Department of Health and with the support from the Florida Medical Association, has endorsed the ischemic stroke acute care medical practice guideline.

The goal of this voluntary guideline is to promote improved care for individuals with ischemic stroke and to assist hospitals and EMS in developing acute stroke intervention protocols.

To obtain your free copy of this guideline contact:

Christine J. Guignard, R.N, M.S.N.
Coordinator, Medical Guideline Development
Agency for Healthcare Administration

FAX: (850) 414-6470
Email: Chris_Guignard@doh.state.fl.us

FAEMSE@FAEMSE

Things seem to move so quickly in the "communication era." Information is readily available and successful individuals know the many benefits of networking and sharing resources.

FAEMSE was created, in part, to foster communication amongst EMS educators. In that spirit, we are proud to announce the creation of a dedicated listserver for FAEMSE members.

We welcome everyone to participate freely by communicating whatever is on your mind (pertaining to EMS education). Simply address your comments to faemse@faemse.org

State Health Department warns nurses about scam

The Florida Department of Health is warning nurses throughout the state to ignore an official-looking license renewal notice that asks them to send a \$45 check.

The notice, which contains the Florida seal in two places, is fake, state health officials said.

The return envelope features a Tallahassee address, which an investigator found is actually a Mail Boxes Etc. mail drop. The notices were sent from Charlotte, N. C., on March 31. The form asks nurses to check off a box indicating whether they have completed an AIDS education course.

Any nurse with questions about the validity of their form may call the Licensure Call Center at (850) 410-3359.

Learner Motivation

Learning tends to be more effective when the learner is properly motivated. What is motivation? Motivation is a motive for acting (or not acting). It is the reason why we do what we do.

Don't confuse a student's inability to learn with their being poorly motivated. They may be highly motivated to be somewhere else other than your classroom.

Basic Principles of Motivation

1. You cannot motivate other people.
2. All people are motivated.
3. People do things for their reasons, not your reasons.

Five ways to squelch motivation

1. Have little personal contact.
2. Get participants in a passive mood in keep them there.
3. Assume that the class will apply what is taught.
4. Be quick to criticize.
5. Make participants feel stupid for asking questions in class.

Improved process for processing new members

FAEMSE has rapidly grown since its inception in September 1997. Our membership now exceeds one hundred individuals and institutions with new members joining on an average of 5 a month. In interest of providing quality services, a change of policy in the processing of new members is being implemented.

The Florida College of Emergency Physicians (FCEP) will process each prospective member who submits an application to FAEMSE. The FCEP has provided other valuable business services to our organization and is well suited to expedite some routine member services.

As a result of our two organizations working together new members will be processed more quickly. This means that each new member will receive FAEMSE materials within days of joining instead of weeks. Our goal is to warmly welcome each member and to continue to provide quality service for all members.

Volunteers needed for NAEMSE Symposium

The National Association of EMS Educators (NAEMSE) needs local volunteers to assist at its annual symposium in Orlando from September 14-18, 1999. The symposium attracts hundreds of educators from around the country and occupies thousands of square feet of meeting space.

Each year, local volunteers augment the NAEMSE leadership and staff. Volunteers frequently help with registration, airport pick-up of speakers, provide directions to registrants and other essential duties.

FAEMSE members are needed to represent our state and to help make this symposium successful. **Please call John Todaro at (407) 665-5127 to pledge an hour or two of your time.**



Welcomes New Members

Linda Bell	William Corso
Antonia Crimi	Anthony Gay
Al Herndon	Kathy Hodges
Jeffrey Lindsey	Daniel Scales
Thomas Sheridan	Todd Soard
Mel Bledsoe	Gordon Kokx
Wayne Ramsey	Mike McMummer
Laurence Vorisek	

Educational Sojourn *continued*

The next day found me on an eastward path through the scenic serenity of Western Maryland onward into Baltimore, eventually arriving at the University of Maryland's Baltimore County campus. There I was greeted with a similar hospitality as I had found in Pittsburgh. Dr. Bruce Walz, Dwight Polk, Dr. Rick Bissell, and other staff members warmly welcomed me and offered a potential articulation agreement that would allow our students the ability to transfer from our program directly into the UMBC Bachelor's degree program. Though a few of our academic A.S. degree courses do not all match the UMBC prerequisite requirements, all of the paramedic coursework will transfer because of our JRC accreditation.

Of additional interest at UMBC was their Master's degree program offered through distance learning. The program can be accessed from literally anywhere in the world via the Internet. As EMS systems grow and become more competitive, many employers are providing their employees with tuition for the management-centered Master's in order to enable them to perform their jobs at a high performance level.

Dr. Walz shared with me the concept of the "Academic Common Market." This allows students who transfer to UMBC from a SACS-accredited school (and whose respective state does not offer a Bachelor's degree), the opportunity to have out-of-state tuition waived. Another potential financial encouragement for students is the state of Maryland's resident tuition assistance program. The program allows public service students (including EMS), who live in Maryland free tuition for each year they either volunteer or work for pay in their respective field. This is great news for our Florida students who are able to relocate.

My last school visit took me through Virginia to the George Washington University in Washington, D.C. Of special interest to me at GWU was their Bachelor's degree program in EMS Management offered via distance learning on the web.

GWU also offered a potential articulation agreement for our A.S. degree students. Like UMBC, our student's paramedic coursework and other related courses would transfer to GWU towards their B.S. degree. Since GWU is

internationally known for their public health programs, a wealth of additional potential awaits their graduates with a direct graduate study articulation agreement for those who wish to continue with post-baccalaureate studies.

At the end of my Mid-Atlantic sojourn I was very thankful to have had the opportunity to visit the three schools. I had met some wonderful EMS educators, toured their programs, spoke with their students, and was made aware of some outstanding potential opportunities for our students here in Florida. Because of the fine schools like those I visited, a tremendous connection to the world of EMS is available for those students who wish to pursue it.

It is my hope that my journey will not only benefit our students at CFCC, but other Florida EMS students as well. If you have any questions regarding my visits or the programs in specific, please feel free to contact me at kokxg@cfcc.cc.fl.us or (352) 854-2322, ext. 1420 for more information. For a more aesthetically detailed account of my journey please visit: <http://www.cfcc.cc.fl.us/tli/tljour5.htm#Mid-Atlantic>

BTLS Case-Based

continued

The Florida BTLS State Committee, headed by Dr. Joe Nelson, plans to submit the supplemental materials to the National BTLS office for review. At the same time, select other sites within Florida will be chosen for additional evaluation of the materials.

"This case-based initiative reflects very positively on Florida BTLS," says Dr. Nelson. Florida is one of the most active states in the country in respect to the number of learners trained in BTLS. "Now, Florida will be known for its creativity and leadership in advancing the quality of BTLS programs nationwide," adds Nelson.

To schedule a BTLS course in your area, please contact BTLS of Florida at (407) 281-7562 or visit their website at www.floridabtls.org

Upcoming Events

Emergency Management of Acute Stroke Course

ClinCon '99 Preconference

July 8, 1999

Caribe Royale Resort Suites

Orlando, Florida

(407) 281-7396

ALS Curricula Rollout & NAEMSE Symposium

September 14-18, 1999

Radison Twin Towers

(412) 578-3219

Interesting WEB Sites

International Trauma Anesthesia and Critical Care Society

www.trauma.itaccs.com

Emedicine

www.emedicine.com

Training Supersite

www.trainingsupersite.com

Flightweb

www.flightweb.com



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