Globalizing Your Certification Program: Getting Started

Presented by

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www.ascp.org
American Society for Clinical Pathology

- Founded 1922

- 501 (C)(3) Medical Professional Society
  - Membership organization
  - Certification agency
Board of Registry

- Founded 1928

- Board of Governors
  - 5 ASCP Fellows
  - 5 ASCP Associates
  - 1 member from each of the following organizations: AABB, AACC, ACM, ASC, ASH, CLMA, NSH
  - 2 public members

- Programs
  - 25 certifications
  - 5 qualifications
Evolution of the ASCP BOR Globalization Taskforce

- Evolved out of BOR strategic planning session
- Initial thoughts on potential opportunities
  - Market expansion of certifications
  - Market BOR services
  - Expand international collaboration
Charges to the Taskforce

- Explore feasibility of globalization for ASCP BOR
- Make a recommendation related to accreditation of the ASCP BOR certification program
- Make a recommendation related to translation of certification examinations into Spanish
“Involvement in international certification should be to attest that a particular standard is being met, not necessarily to improve standards in other countries”
Taskforce Members
*Who are they?*

- Board of Governors Members
- Domestic Members
  - ![Flag](image1.png)
- International Members
  - ![Flag](image2.png)
  - ![Flag](image3.png)
  - ![Flag](image4.png)
- Consultant
- Staff
First Face-to-Face Meeting

Pictured from front to back: Sharon Ehrmeyer, Ellen Hope Kearns, Marilyn Gamble, Kathleen Becan McBride, Kory Ward-Cook, Sharon Goldsmith, Shirley Greening, William Becker, Alan Wainwright.
Taskforce Activities:

*Research*

- Models used to globalize certification programs
- Governmental regulations
- Trade agreements
- Competition from other certification groups
- Potential funding sources
- Strategic allies
- Feasibility of working in/with specific countries
- Agencies who accredit certification programs
Taskforce Activities: 
*Structured Interviews*

- Industry Leaders
- Executive Director, Joint Commission International
- In Vitro Diagnostic Industry Contacts
- All Taskforce Members
Taskforce Findings: There are External Pressures to Globalize

- Government interest
- Industry interest
- Certificate holder interest
- Need for consumer protection
- Program Directors’ support
  - 76% support from Program Directors in the US
  - 100% support from Program Directors in Australia, Hong Kong, Ireland, Malaysia, Malta, Sri Lanka, UK
Taskforce Recommendations to the Board: 
*Motions Approved*

**Motion 1: Immediately seek accreditation from ANSI**

- ISO standard 17024 for certification agencies
- Three categories
  - Medical Technologist
  - Medical Laboratory Technician
  - Phlebotomy Technician
Motions Approved by the Board

Motion 2: *Conduct an International Conference*

- **Topic**
  - Harmonization of eligibility routes for credentialing medical laboratory personnel

- **Preparation for Conference**
  - Conduct needs assessment on interest and issues in globalization of credentialing systems and standards
  - Prepare a review paper - international overview of medical laboratory personnel
Motions Approved by the BOG

Motion 3: Conduct a Tri-lateral Pilot Project

- Explore ways of working together
- International practice analysis (e.g., MT)
- Countries:
  - Australia- AIMS
  - U.K.- IBMS
  - U.S.- ASCP BOR
Current Activities

- Present papers at international meetings
- Explore possible expansion of international practice analysis to EU countries
- Attend conferences on globalizing the profession
Questions/ Comments?

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