AASCB Report

Anita Mester, President of ATCB

As President of the ATCB, I had the good fortune of representing our credential holders at the annual meeting of the American Association of State Counseling Boards. I was joined by Gayle Sutch, ATR-BC, President-elect of the ATCB. Also in attendance were AATA President Lynn Kapitan, ATR-BC, and AATA Professional Relations Consultant Cathy Malchiodi, ATR, who presented the AATA’s recent changes in educational standards. The topic of the conference was “Public Protection”, which parallels the ATCB’s mission as your credentialing body. President-elect Sutch and I sat in on many sessions and updated our knowledge of ethics, adjudication, and the administration of credentials. We also engage counseling board members in an art experience that involved a mandala/puzzle in which each representative made a contribution (see photo). The theme of working together was well received.

What a difference a year makes! The past year of dialoguing with and educating state counseling boards has resulted in more boards expressing a willingness to allow trained art therapists to sit for their licensure exams. Conversations with Dean Porter of Orange County revealed that she is working with Wendy Vernon, ATR-BC in the California Coalition for Counselor Licensure. A board member from Kentucky stated, “With the changes in the University of Louisville’s program, I don’t have to look twice at recent applicants from the U of L because I know they meet counseling standards and are well trained as therapists.”

Tom Clawson of NBCC clarified for the AASCB that his interactions with us over the last year have made it clear that art therapists are not a counseling specialty but a separate profession with its own training, membership organization, and credentialing. The NBCC recognizes that art therapists have an autonomous, established credentials board that administers credentials and adjudicates ethical issues specific to our field. Art therapists recognize that they may need to take additional coursework in counseling in order to become licensed, and our professional counseling colleagues welcome this collaboration.

In response to AASCB’s growing acceptance and knowledge of AATA’s revised education standards and our credentials, the strong support displayed by the AATA membership in the business meeting at the annual conference in San Diego, and the input of the ATCB task force members, I will recommend to our full Board that we not support any movement to relocate the ATR at this time. I feel it is not in the best interest of our profession to change the status of our current credentials although I will also recommend to our full Board that we continue to evaluate the proposal.
ATCB and AATA: How Are They Related

There has been confusion among many art therapists about the relationship between the Art Therapy Credentials Board (ATCB) and the American Art Therapy Association (AATA). It is important to note that these organizations are different and separate legal entities. AATA can be characterized as a member organization and was incorporated in Oklahoma in 1969. Its stated mission was to serve its members and to protect the general public by providing standards of professional competence, and developing and promoting knowledge in, and of, the field of art therapy.

In the 1980’s, AATA began exploring the idea of certification of art therapists. At its 1992 fall meeting a resolution was passed to put a certification program in place within three years. By the following November an interim board of ATCB was appointed. Bylaws were enacted in February 1993 and the appointment of the first official board followed in April. On November 20, 1994 the first certification exam was given in Chicago, Illinois. In July 1995 for sound legal and practical reasons, ATCB was spun off into a different legal entity as a separate Oklahoma corporation.

In October 2001, ATCB was reincorporated in the State of North Carolina, the state of incorporation of many other credentialing or professional membership entities, including the National Board of Counseling Credentialing (NBCC) and the American Association of State Counseling Boards (AASCB). ATCB is a non-profit entity with the stated mission of protecting the public by promoting the competent and ethical practice of art therapy. This includes developing and promoting the strongest possible credentials for art therapists, establishing the highest standards for the ethical practice of art therapy and adjudicating complaints involving ethical violations.

ATCB and AATA have each been granted nonprofit status from the Internal Revenue Service but under different sections of the Internal Revenue Code. The Internal Revenue Code grants tax-exempt status to non-profit organizations in more than 20 categories under Section 501(c). Depending on its category of tax-exemption, a non-profit organization may be permitted to, or prohibited from, engaging in various activities. AATA has secured tax-exempt status under Section 501(c) (3) while ATCB secured its tax-exempt status under Section 501 (c) (6).

Section 501(c)(3) Organizations

Section 501(c)(3) is the public benefit category, and permitted purposes for organizations in this category include: charitable, educational, and literary. Contributions to all 501(c)(3) organizations, except those that “test for public safety,” are deductible as charitable donations for federal income tax purposes.

New Ethics Requirements for ATR-BCs

In light of the fact that current mental health regulation trends are placing an emphasis on ethics, the ATCB has taken a proactive stance on this issue by adopting a new ethics requirement for ATR-BCs who are recertifying. Effective 07/01/06, all ATR-BCs who are applying for recertification in order to maintain their credentials will need to submit documentation that they have earned six (6) continuing education credits in ethics. These six CECs will count toward the total of 100 CECs required in each five-year renewal cycle.

While many recertifying ATR-BCs have been earning ethics CECs out of their own commitment to their professional development, this new requirement provides a formal means of recognizing the significance of such efforts. By establishing an ethics requirement, the ATCB is communicating to consumers, employers, funding sources, and state licensing boards alike that ATR-BCs are accountable practitioners who are willing to further educate themselves in order to ensure a psychologically and emotionally safe treatment experience for their clients.

Visit www.atcb.org for the latest information about the 2005 Board Certification Examination

continued on page 4
It’s great to be able to say that the ATCB continues to be on solid financial footing, with an available cash balance of over $267,000. In accordance with good accounting practices, the available balance would be enough to cover the ATCB’s expenses for one fiscal year (FY).

The graph below demonstrates trends in income from fees associated with credentialing from 1999 through September 30, 2004. It is interesting to note that in 2001 and 2002, ATR-BC recertification fees mirrored ATR registration (maintenance) fees, probably reflecting the number of ATRs choosing to earn and maintain the ATR-BC. In 2003 and 2004, the numbers associated with both the ATR and the ATR-BC remain steady, with indications of a trend in increases for both of these credentials.

The ATCB adopted the budget for 2005 at the Fall Board meeting. Budget line items for 2005 were based either on income/expense for FY 2004, or on the average income/expense over the past 5 years. The 2005 Budget is broken down into main categories in the two tables below.
Permitted Activities

- As a 501(c)(3), AATA may use its funds for charity, education, and the promotion of literature and related administrative costs.
- Charitable activities may include distributing scholarships.
- Educational activities include creating standards and publications and sponsoring seminars and conferences.
- Literary activities may include promoting books and authors, providing forums for discussions of art therapy topics.

Limitations on 501(c)(3)s

- As a 501(c)(3), any activities which are not charitable, educational, or literary must be insubstantial, i.e., short-term or limited in nature.
- AATA may engage in lobbying up to $1 million. Lobbying is the support of or opposition to legislation.
- All political activity is prohibited. Political activity is the support of or opposition to candidates for public office.
- Transfer of funds to organizations in different tax-exemption categories is prohibited, unless the transfer furthers a charitable, educational, or literary purpose, or constitutes a loan at market rates of interest.

Examples of Other 501(c)(3)s

- American College of Surgeons
- American Psychological Association
- National PTA
- United Way
- Arthritis Foundation

Section 501(c)(6) Organizations

Organizations exempt under this category include: business leagues, chambers of commerce, real estate boards, and boards of trade.

The IRS regulations state that a business league is an association of persons having some common business interest, the purpose of which is to promote such common interests. Its activities should be directed to the improvement of business conditions in one or more lines of business. Contributions to 501(c)(6) organizations are not deductible as charitable donations for federal income tax purposes. Donations may be deducted as a business expense if they are “ordinary and necessary” in the conduct of the taxpayer’s business.

Permitted Activities.

- Promotion of professional activities includes certification of individual credentials, advertising, assisting professionals to earn higher salaries.
- Trade association activities include advertising products or credentials.
- A 501(c)(6) may engage in unlimited lobbying.
- A 501(c)(6) may engage in political activity, but must pay a 35% excise tax on the total amount of its direct political expenditures.
- A 501(c)(6) may engage in the same types of charitable, educational, and literary activities permitted for a 501(c)(3).

Examples of Other 501(c)(6)s

- American Medical Association
- American Bar Association
- Independent Insurance Agents of America
- Spring Manufacturers Association
- Northwest Association of Realtors

A Board of Directors consisting of seven Directors governs the ATCB. The AATA President traditionally serves in an ex-officio (nonvoting) capacity on this Board. Of the seven Directors, two are elected by ATRs and ATR-BCs, two are appointed by AATA, and three are appointed by the ATCB. Although AATA has a close connection to the ATCB and a strong voice on its Board of Directors, ATCB is a separate and a self-governing entity.

The ATCB has always favored its independence from AATA and will continue to protect it. However, the ATCB also recognizes the need for both organizations to work more closely than ever to promote art therapy as a profession. The ATCB looks forward to finding new and improved strategies to work with AATA in bettering the profession and the professional interests of art therapist.

Change of Address?
Don’t forget to let us know!
Call 877-213-2822 or send an email to atcb@nbcc.org
ATCB FAQ

Do I need CECs to maintain my ATR credential?

- No. You only need to accrue CECs to maintain your credential if you are Board Certified (ATR-BC).

My original certification date is listed as January 1, but my recertification date is listed as July 1. Which is correct?

- The recertification date of July 1 is correct. When you first become certified, the certification date of all new ATR-BCs is effective on January 1 of the year you receive your results from your examination. The recertification period runs concurrent with the ATCB fiscal year, which runs from July 1 through June 30. This gives new ATR-BCs an extra 6 months to meet their CEC requirements for the first recertification period.

Election Results

In October 2004, the ATCB held elections for two director positions on the ATCB Board of Directors. Thank you for taking the time to submit your votes for this important election. The following art therapists were elected to the ATCB Board of Directors:

Deborah Good, ATR-BC – Albuquerque, New Mexico

Marian (Terry) Towne, ATR-BC - Shelton, CT

These Board Certified art therapists will serve a two-year term on the board. Congratulations on being elected to these very important board positions!

Important Changes to Registration Standards for Option B and Option C

At the November 2004 Board of Directors meeting, the ATCB unanimously approved a motion that reduced the number of hours of post graduate experience necessary to gain approval through Options B and C. The number of supervised direct client contact using art therapy has been reduced from 2000 hours to 1500 hours. Likewise, the supervision requirements have been reduced from 200 hours to 150 hours, with at least 75 hours of supervision provided by an ATR or ATR-BC. These changes were effective January 1, 2005. These changes are reflected on our website and in all of our applications. If you should have questions regarding the change in registration requirements, please contact the National Office.

Letters to the Editor

The ATCB would like to offer credential holders the opportunity to address concerns to the Board of Directors. To accomplish this, we will include a section entitled “Letters to the Editor” in future newsletters. If you have a burning issue for the ATCB, you may submit your letter via email to the following address:

atcb@nbcc.org

The editor of the ATCB newsletter will review all correspondence and select letters for inclusion in upcoming newsletters. The ATCB is extremely interested in hearing from our credential holders and the issues they face.

In the Next ATCB Review

- Information on the new employer brochure
- Summary of ATCB Strategic Planning Session
- Information from Spring 2005 Board of Director’s meeting
- Information on the Board Certification Examination on November 19, 2005
Congratulations to Our New ATRs!
July 2004-February 2005

Deann Acton  
Carolyn Adessa  
Ruth Airhart  
Rachel Albert  
Yvette Alt  
Michele Amendolari  
Kim Anderson  
Carson Anderson  
Mary Andrus  
Mindy Arce  
Paula Artac  
Kelly Ashby  
Maureen Baddour - Moses  
Ann Bahr  
Wendy Bauer  
Leah Bell  
Stacy Bell  
Catherine Benavides-Arbas  
Diane Bernstein  
Kara Berringer  
Bonnie Bluestein  
Michelle Bodwell  
Wendi Lea Boettcher  
Elissa Bowes  
Tabitha S Bradford  
Pamela Louise Brauchli  
Sheryl Braunstein  
Seung-Eun Brenner  
Elissa Bromberg  
Brenda Brown  
Kathryn Bryan  
Laura Buonomo  
Christine Lee Burns  
Peggy Calder  
Rita Canny  
Donna Caputo  
Elizabeth Cardona  
Cynthia Carlson  
Alyssa Caroselli  
Megan Charney  
Evelyn Co  
Carrie Coblentz  
Nadine Cohen  
Lisa Cohen  
Kim Coleman Deinzer  
Teresa Connell  
Deanna Cooper  
Brandie Cormier  
Mary Beth Cote  
Tara Cronin  
Sarah D’Agostino  
Angela Daniels  
Tosha Davis  
Lourie Davis  
Stacy De Las Alas  
Lisa Deeb  
Deborah Del Signore  
Keith Delancey  
Trina Delia  
Joanne della Penta  
Benedicte Deschamps  
Laura JJ Dessauer  
Jolene Desson  
Victoria Detiger  
Monica Devine-Haley  
Lisa Diamond-Raab  
Melissa Dicarlo  
Dorothy DiGiminianni  
Yoko Dizon  
Laura Dobbs  
Deborah Douek  
Alexia Electris  
Heather Fabbre  
Dora Fairchild  
Meredith Farrell  
Jennifer Fields-Ferris  
Rebecca Fischer  
Donna Fragapane  
Ariel Frager  
Grace Frantilla  
Reiko Fujisawa  
Linda Gates  
Carole Gauthier  
Lancon  
Amanda Gesme  
Dawn Gilbert  
Kristina Gilliam  
Virginia B Graham  
Adam Graves  
Molly Greece  
Marni Greenwald  
Irini Gregoriou  
Atara Grenadir  
Andrea Grumbine  
Marisa Guglietta  
Jennifer Haar  
Michelle Harris  
Elizabeth Hartz  
Joelle Hathaway  
Joan Hawkins  
Beverly Henes  
David Henley  
Sandra Hirschfield  
Lisa Hixenbaugh  
Rosalyn Hochstein  
Kendra Hoffmaster  
Susanne Holloran  
Elizabeth Holmes  
Michelle Anne Hololob  
Kathryn Howard  
Adam Huffman  
Rebecca Hunger  
Constance Hunt  
Carolene Hunter  
Darlene Jackson  
Lukas Jaeggi  
Rachel Jaslow  
Stacy Jones  
Juliette  
Joanna Kabat  
Rita Lynn Kanareff  
Johanna Kane  
Diane Kearns  
Roni Kellner  
Mary Kew  
Lisa Kiefer  
Jong-Hee Kim  
Hee Sun Kim  
Elizabeth Kim  
Christina Kittstein  
V. Daniel Kollar  
Christopher Krymski  
Amy Kuzniar  
Jo Mazza Lagattuta  
Amanda Lance  
Elizabeth Lang  
Lindsay Lauder  
Maria  
Christine LaVorgna-Smith  
Yun Jung Lee  
Gail Lipe  
Sandra Jane Little  
Sandra Lloyd  
Amy Loblaw  
Kristen Lopez  
Tammy Love  
Lacy Lowry  
Lauren Lucches  
Huyen MacMichael  
Christine Makarewicz  
Barbara Margolies  
Melissa Marks  
Karyn Martino  
Michelle Masbaum  
Erica Maxion  
Patricia Mazul  
Jodi McKee  
Lois Merrill  
Aurelie Meslin  
Kathryn Mierke  
Naomi Mishali  
Mary Kathleen Moore  
Mychelle Moritz  
Julie Nearing  
Mary Newhouse  
John Norris  
Margaret Nowak  
Frances Nutter-Upham  
Jennifer Oefelein  
Etsuko Okamoto  
Theresa Okunowski  
Tara Paisley  
Angela Paul  
Denise Pavich  
Sherry Peck  
Caroline Peterson  
Maria Petras  
Lisa Phillips  
Karen Pollock  
Susan Price  
Robyn Proctor  
Holly Queen-Daugherty  
Adriana Ethel  
Rabinovich  
Dena Rain Adler  
Rebecca Ratkowski  
Jennifer Reed  
Sharon Reese  
Angie Reichert-Hester  
Deborah Rice  
Kathleen Blake Ridley  
Maureen Riley  
Megan Robb  
Deborah Rondinella  
Johanna Rosenfield  
Merryl Rothaus  
Dorothy Russell  
Mariko Saito  
Elizabeth Sanders  
Lynn Scarbrough  
Janice Schwartz  
Jennifer Scott  
Kristin Sellke  
Julie Shannon  
Kit Shapiro  
Jessica Simon  
Beth Sirota  
Christina Smith  
Sara Smith  
Heidi Smith  
Stephanie Somppi  
Karla Steckler  
Laurie Stern  
Susan Stimmell  
Laura Street  
Anne Stutb  
Genevieve Symons-Lundberg  
Rowena Talusan  
Tara Tanwongprasert  
Christina Taylor  
Dawn Truby  
Geoffrey Vaughan  
Holly Viola  
Anakela C Washington  
Jillian Loraine  
Waterfield  
Suzette Westsmith  
Lisa Williams  
Tracy Williams  
Heather Williams  
Amy Williams  
Michaela Worrix  
Adrienne Yurinko  
Amy Zubek
Congratulations to Our New ATR-BCs


ATCB Treasurer’s Newsletter Report
continued from page 3

In other business at the Fall ATCB meeting, Sarah Deaver ATR-BC was elected from among the ATCB Directors to fill the position of ATCB Treasurer beginning in January of 2005. She will work closely with the ATCB management, including Dana Boylan-Walker, the ATCB’s comptroller, to assure continued sound fiscal management of the ATCB.

Christanne Strang, PhD, ATR-BC
Outgoing ATCB Treasurer
Is Your Workplace Proud of the Job You Do?

The ATCB is seeking employer testimonials for a new brochure entitled “Why Should I Hire a Board Certified Art Therapist?” The brochure is geared towards promoting the ATR-BC credential to potential employers by providing information about what the credential means in terms of an art therapist’s training and level of competence.

We are hoping to include testimonials from employers who already know the value of having an ATR-BC on staff or as a consultant and we hope that you can help us out.

If you are an ATR-BC and your workplace is proud of the service you provide, please encourage the administration to write a letter of support for the credential.

Testimonials may be mailed to: Management Director
Art Therapy Credentials Board, Inc.
3 Terrace Way
Greensboro, NC 27403-3660