Message from the ATCB President:

Gayle M. Sutch, ATR-BC

The ATCB is using a variety of forums to roll-out the credentials upgrade opportunity called the “BC Initiative.” I realize that many of you were made aware of the initiative via the last issue of our newsletter and have seen references to it on our Web site. However, you may still have some questions about this time-limited opportunity. In an effort to answer some of these questions much of this current issue of the ATCB Review is devoted to issues related to the “BC Initiative.” The following history about the development of the initiative may help some of you better understand the rationale and conceptual platform upon which the “BC Initiative” was constructed.

In a joint meeting between representatives from the leadership of The American Art Therapy Association and the Art Therapy Credential Board held in August 2005, both organizations agreed to partner in support of an important AATA Governmental Affairs Committee agenda item – seeking statutory regulations for the protection of the practice of art therapy on a state-by-state basis. Both organizations agreed that the credential preferred for this legislative push would be the ATR-BC (Board Certified Art Therapist). Further, both organizations recognized that, in order to attract legislators to this effort, it would require greater numbers of credentialed art therapy practitioners. The Art Therapy Credentials Board currently maintains 2315 Registered Art Therapists (ATRs) but only 1519 Board Certified Art Therapists (ATR-BCs). In order to advance the profession of art therapy it will be necessary to increase the number of ATR-BCs. AATA and ATCB hope that at least 1000 ATRs will become Board Certified before April of 2007.

Between August 2005 and January 2006, the Boards of AATA and the ATCB worked to construct a viable plan to encourage a greater number of art therapists to attain the BC credential. Utilizing the personnel and financial resources of both Boards, the BC Initiative was unveiled in April with the goal of strengthening the perception of the profession of art therapy. The BC Initiative is a time limited opportunity for all art therapists to attain the BC credential. AATA members have an additional incentive because they can apply for the credential at a substantially reduced rate. The initiative provides three application options and the ATCB has arranged for the BC Examination to be offered at multiple sites and dates throughout the initiative period that will end in April 2007.

To learn more about the BC Initiative please go to our Web site www.atcb.org where you will find additional information and downloadable applications.

By obtaining Board Certification during the BC Initiative you will be contributing to the overall advancement of the profession of art therapy.

Features.....
Message from the President 1
BC Initiative 2
Documenting Supervision 3
ATCB’s Strategic Plan 3
Call for Nominations 4
Ethics Q&A 5
New ATR-BCs and ATRs 6
Board Motions 7
Upcoming Exam Dates 8

Visit www.atcb.org for the latest information about the 2006 Board Certification Examination dates.
Facts about the BC Initiative

1. What are the benefits of becoming an ATR-BC?
   - Board Certification signifies that you have achieved the highest credential you can earn as an art therapist;
   - Board Certification assures employers, clients and the public that you have achieved and adhere to the highest standards set by a professional credentialing organization;
   - Board Certification acknowledges that you adhere to a Code of Professional Practice standards and are accountable to an oversight entity;
   - Board Certification requires that you receive continuing professional education to remain current in trends, theory, and practice;
   - Board Certification gives you recognition within your profession and with related professional organizations;

2. Does board certification affect my status to practice or collect insurance?

   Your status to practice will depend on the licensing laws in your state. In many states certification may not by itself be enough to allow you to practice. AATA’s legislative goals and efforts are aimed at achieving statutory recognition and protection of art therapists in all states with the ATR-BC as the benchmark criteria for such recognition.

   Your ability to secure third party (insurance) payment is dependent on the law of the state in which you practice and the payment policies of the insurers in that state. A stated benefit of the legislative goals is to achieve wider and better insurance payment for art therapists.

3. What happens if I have trouble getting my state board to complete the verification form for Option II?

   Most Boards are in the practice of completing verification of licensure forms. Some Boards do charge a nominal fee. Check with your Board to find out about their process. ATCB will accept a print out from a Board Web site if it comes directly from the Board and if it contains the required information outlined on the verification form.

4. I am nationally certified but do not hold state licensure or certification, will this qualify for Option II?

   In order to be eligible to apply under Option II, the applicant must be licensed or certified by their state licensing authority in a mental health related field. The license or certification must authorize the individual to practice independently in the state. ATCB recognizes the following fields as mental health related: Art Therapy, Counseling, Marriage and Family Therapy, Social Work, Psychology, Addictions Counseling, Psychiatric Nursing, Psychiatry;

5. Option II – If I am licensed in more than one state, do I need to obtain verification from all states?

   You only need verification from one state. Your licensure must be current and active.

6. How many CECs are required to maintain the ATR-BC?

   ATR-BCs must document 100 continuing education credits in a five-year period. Specific information about recertification and continuing education can be found on our Web site at www.atcb.org.

7. Who will review the Option III applications and why will it take 6 months to receive a response?

   The Option III application is a special application process for those who have significant

   continued on page 5
Documenting Professional Supervision: A Practice Improvement Tip

Whether you are a recent graduate, beginning to collect hours towards the ATR, or a more seasoned professional, making use of supervision or consultation to strengthen your competencies, the ATCB recommends careful documentation of all professional supervision.

Documenting professional supervision doesn’t need to be a hassle or a chore. The creation of a supervision log form (that can then be placed in a notebook or binder) can simplify the task and keep your records in order. A typical log form would indicate the date and length of the supervisory session, the general nature of the topic(s) discussed, the name and credentials/license of the supervisor, and his/her signature. Obviously, when noting the topic(s) discussed you will want to avoid breaking the confidentiality of your client(s) by making sure that no identifying information is included.

Keep in mind that the ATCB always recommends face-to-face supervision particularly when it is being conducted to fulfill requirements of the ATR. However, if the supervision/consultation is other than a face-to-face contact, as in the case of a professional using telephone communication to consult with a colleague. We recommend that you inform the supervisor/consultant that you will be sending them a form to sign — it’s a nice touch to include a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return purposes.

Documenting professional supervision also makes good sense from a number of perspectives. It will serve as a personal record of the number of contacts that you make to improve your practice competencies — thus ensuring that you are making your best efforts to provide ethical treatment to your client(s). Keeping a record of supervision can be useful after the ATR credential has been attained if you later elect to apply for a license. Also, a supervision log will serve as a permanent record of your professional oversight should you lose contact with a supervisor due to their relocation or death.

*If you have a practice improvement tip to share, please send it to the ATCB office, attention ATCB Review Editor.*

ATCB Unveils Strategic Plan

At its spring meeting in Greensboro, NC, the Board of Directors (BOD) gave unanimous approval to the ATCB Strategic Plan. The Plan, resulting from a year’s worth of careful scrutiny by all members of the ATCB BOD, was developed out of strategic planning session led by then consultant to the ATCB, Bill More, ATR-BC. During the initial phase of the planning session, the Board was divided up into teams to identify the organization’s strengths, weaknesses, threats, and opportunities. This exercise was followed by an active period of brainstorming about how to maximize our strengths and opportunities while considering how to overcome our weaknesses and the external/environmental threats. By the end of the session, the Board had articulated four strategic goals. They are as follows:

I. Improve awareness of the ATCB credentials
II. Use the ATCB’s financial resources to support the ATCB mission
III. Improve external and internal communication
IV. Evaluate the ATCB credentials in order to fulfill the ATCB mission and vision

The next step in the process was to flesh out each of the four goals by developing strategic objectives, suggested actions to be taken, the designating of responsible parties, and a timeline for completion. Terry Towne, ATR-BC, volunteered to organize this task using e-mail communication with the rest of the BOD. Over the past twelve months the plan has steadily taken shape so that, with minor adjustments, it was approved in May 2006.

The current ATCB Strategic Plan will be in effect between 2006-2008 and will be evaluated at each meeting of the Board of Directors. Each member of the BOD will be responsible for semi-annual reporting on how his/her activities specifically support the plan. The ATCB BOD believes strongly that the Strategic Plan will serve to provide focus to our work in fulfilling our mission; “to protect the public by promoting the competent and ethical practice of art therapy.”

We invite you to review the plan in its entirety by visiting our Web site, www.atcb.org. Updates on our progress will be published regularly in the ATCB Review.
Call for Nominations

The ATCB Nominating Committee seeks interested and qualified nominees for the ATCB Board of Directors for a two-year term (beginning in odd-numbered years). Applicants will be considered for two positions on the board. The deadline for nominations is June 30th.

You may submit your own or a colleague’s name for consideration as a nominee. The following instructions and guidelines are provided to help you with your submission:

1. When submitting the name of a colleague (or your own name):
   a. obtain the nominee’s consent to run.
   b. fill out bottom of this letter and mail to the National Office. A Nomination Application will be sent to each nominee.
   c. be sure the nomination form arrives at the national office by June 30, 2006

2. Keep the following criteria in mind when considering well-qualified individuals for nomination:
   a. Only ATCB credentialed individuals may be considered.
   b. Nominees must be available and willing to serve for two-years.
   c. Nominees must have prior experience on an ATCB or AATA board, committee, or special project preferred.

Nominee’s Name: ___________________________ ATR-BC# (if known): ______________________
Nominated by: ___________________________ ATR/ATR-BC#: ___________________________
Address: __________________________________________________________
City/State/Zip ___________________________ Phone# ___________________________

**I am nominating this individual because________________________________________

________________________________________

(**optional)

Please submit completed nomination forms to:

Art Therapy Credentials Board, Inc.
3 Terrace Way, Suite B
Greensboro, NC 27403-3660
Ethics Q&A

Recertification—What constitutes an acceptable ‘Ethics Course’ to meet the ATCB’s new ethics requirement for continuing education?

Webster’s dictionary defines ethics as “the principles of conduct governing an individual or group”. Any CEC opportunity that addresses the principles of conduct that govern credentialed art therapists (as per the ATCB Code of Professional Practice) would then be pertinent. Most CEC opportunities in ethics have the word “ethics” in their titles.

CEC opportunities that enhance the art therapist’s face-to-face clinical skills do not fall under the ethics category. For example, participating in a workshop that serves to enhance a clinician’s ability to detect child abuse is not the same thing as participating in a workshop that serves to enhance a clinician’s ability to report child abuse in accordance with state laws. The key difference is that the first scenario targets a clinician’s knowledge while the second scenario targets a clinician’s behavior.

Ethics CECs can be awarded for attending ethics presentations by professionals in the related mental health fields as well (includes counseling, social work, marriage and family therapy, addictions counseling, psychology, psychiatric nursing and psychiatry). ATR-BCs can also receive CECs for conducting ethics workshops, presentations, panels, academic courses and publishing their own ethics articles.

Recertification—My credential is up for recertification July 1, 2007. Am I required to document an ethics course by then?

No. The new ethics requirement goes into effect for those recertification periods beginning ON or AFTER July 1, 2006. ATR-BCs who are in the middle of their recertification period do not have to fulfill the 6 hours until their NEXT recertification period.

continued from page 2

experience as an art therapist and have made significant contributions to the art therapy field. ATCB must be able to show that the documented experience, knowledge, competency and skill level exceeds those areas that would be substantiated through a passing score on the ATR-BC examination. Because of this, an independent committee assigned by the ATCB Board, will review each Option III application. The committee process and extensive review may take up to 6 months to complete dependent on the number of applications for this option.

8. I have only been an ATR for 3 years but have been practicing as an art therapist for over 5 years. Am I eligible to apply under option III?

Applicants must have been an ATR for a minimum of 5 years to apply under Option III.

9. I am an AATA member, how do I remit payment and who do I make the check payable to?

If you are a current AATA member, you are required to include a copy of your current membership card with your application.

If you are an AATA member the fee for Option I is $25.00 for Option II it is $25.00 and for Option III $50.00.

Make checks payable to ATCB
Congratulations to Our New ATR-BCs
February 2006-May 2006

Constance Adams
Donna Addison
Kim Anderson
Danniel Anthom
Mindy Arce
Christine Augello
Andrea Berry
Rebecca Bloom
Jennifer Bruner
Judithson Buck
Giora Carmi
Janet Carnay
Jane Chappell
Melissa Cohen
Lonni Cowan
Catherine Cripps
Tara Cronin
Sydney Croteau
Gorton
Kerry DeBay
Joanne della Penta
Ada Dickinson
Rebecca Doman
Jan Downs-Barrett
Amy Duquette
Rhona Engelman
Eileen Estes
Donna Fragapane
Ann Gilfoyle
Robert Grant
Laurel Greberman
Judy Grossman-Eulau
Christina Grosso
Andrea Grumbine
Ines Guariguata
Janet Guptill
Alison Hammonds
Coretta Harding
Hadass Harel
Elizabeth Ann Harris
Ami Hartley-Quinteros
Lola Hickert
Sandra Hirschfield
Bonnie Hirschhorn
Liza Hyatt
Caren Hyde
Kristina Ice
Jean Jacobson
Heather Jones
Maxine Junge
Joanna Kabat
Bonnie Kauffman
Lisa Kaufman
Joyce Kliman
Dana Kuhl
Sandra Laemmle
Maria Christine LaVorgna-Smith
Jean Mach
Robin Macks
James Mahaffey
Cathy Malchiodi
Karla Erin Markendorf
Sue Ann Martin
Patricia McIntyre
Salem
Jodi McKee
Betty Mellen
Laurie Mowry-Hesler
Jennifer Navarro
Caren Nederlander
Beth Newman
Margaret Nielsen
Nancy Nieman
Gayla Norman
David Ohm
Stephanie Owen Moreno
Kelly Painter
Allison Parks
Anne Pennington
Dori Peterman
Mary Peterson
Lisa Phillips
Florece Pietrafesa
Heather Randazzo
Alisha Rappaport
Nisa Rauschenberg
Debbi Reynolds
Deborah Rice
Amy Rogers
Patricia Ross
Barbara Schiff
William Schwartz
Anne Scully
Paula Shatsky
Arlene Sheff
Suzanne Speede
Barbara St. Jacques
Cynthia Studebaker
Emily Tarsell
Christina Taylor
Tricia Teneycke
Carrie Thompisen
Christine Tiernan
Kathryn Van der Heiden
Patricia Vedder
Rebecca Wadsworth
Patricia Walter
Marilyn Walter
Mary White
Jerilyn Wiederholt
Janice Wilkinson
Susan Williams
Robert Wolf
Matthew William
Dennis Zito

Congratulations to Our New ATRs!
February 2006-May 2006

Amy Babish
Kelli Beck
Meghan Breitzmann
Jennifer Brown
Carrie Burick
Wing Yee Grace Chan
Chi Li Alice Cheung
Amalia Collins
Karen Crane
Charlotte Crossland
Christine DeMarco
Jennifer Ehlers
Ellen Filar
Francine Filzen
Bridget Flynn
Laura Foster
Gilit Gat
Carol Grundmann
Lois Hartnack
Tami Herzog
Erica Jacknin
Sheri Jacobson-Brudely
Amy Johnson
Jacquelyn Jung
Maya Kashi
Penelope Kelly
Cathy Knapp
Hiroko Koike
Irene Kovacs-Donaghy
Emily Krenchyn
Sarah Larsen
Hilary Lega
Alice Locke-Chezar
Marian Maloney
Marcy McClain
Marita McDermott
Laura Miller
Caroline Morton
Tracylynn Navarro
Lori Niermeier
Emily Parsons
Monique Prohaska
Nicole Randick
Diane Raymond
Katherine Reed
Jeremy Riddle
Molly Rush
Amanda Salmer
Elizabeth Savage
Ruth Seider
Lisa Spivack
Mary Stanley
Ellen Stewart
Jodi Stien
Christine Timmerman
July Ugas
Christine Vaccaro
Carrie Williams
David Woodin
Nataly Woollett
Spring 2006 Board Motions
May 5-6, 2006

- The following was added to ATCB’s Policy & Procedures Manual:
  All international trained applicants shall have an equivalency review, conducted at the applicant’s expense, of his or her degrees and transcript that validates equivalency to a master’s degree conferred by a U.S. regionally accredited college or university. The equivalency review shall be conducted by an ATCB approved reviewing organization and forwarded directly by the reviewing organization to ATCB’s management office.

- New ATCB’s Special Examination Accomodations Policy (complying with ADA) was approved and found on the ATCB Web site at: http://www.atcb.org/examinations.

- Article VI, Section 1 of the ATCB Bylaws was amended to reflect the following: “All officers, with the exception of Secretary and Treasurer, must be ATRs and ATR-BCs.”

- The ATCB Strategic Plan was revised and approved and the ATCB Board of Directors will review progress and update the plan annually at the Fall Board meeting.

- Article V, Section 2 “Terms” of the ATCB Bylaws was amended to allow a President to serve 8 years on the Board of Directors, including their 2 year term as President.

- The ATCB BOD voted to amend Article V of the ATCB Bylaws, with AATA Board of Directors approval, as follows:
  - Section 1 – to provide for 9 voting members: 8 whom shall be ATR-BCs and one public member.
  - Section 4A - to allow the AATA Board of Directors to appoint 3 voting members: 2 in off years and 1 in even years.
  - Section 4B – to allow the ATCB Board of Directors to appoint 3 voting members: 2 in even years and 1 in off years.

ATCB President, Gayle Sutch and AATA President Paula Howie at the recent AATA Board of Directors Meeting. Both Presidents are hopeful that all ATRs will take advantage of the opportunity to become Board Certified through the BC Initiative.

Photo by Ellie Ehrlich, ATR-BC
ATCB Board of Directors and Committees 2005-2006

PRESIDENT
Gayle M. Sutch, ATR-BC
Frederick, MD

PRESIDENT-ELECT
Terry Towne, ATR-BC
Shelton, CT

SECRETARY
Sarah Deaver, ATR-BC
Norfolk, VA

TREASURER
Thomas Hartsell, Jr.
Dallas, TX

DIRECTOR
Deborah Good, ATR-BC
Albuquerque, NM

DIRECTOR
Bill More, ATR-BC
Woodbridge, CT

DIRECTOR
Nina Denninger, ATR-BC
Greensburg, PA

EX-OFFICIO MEMBER
Paula Howie, ATR-BC
Silver Spring, MD

CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE CHAIR
Megan Van Meter, ATR-BC
Austin, TX

REGISTRATION STANDARDS CHAIR
Christianne Strang, ATR-BC
Birmingham, AL

INTERIM MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR
Susan Shafer
Greensboro, NC

Upcoming Exam Dates

Washington, DC  September 16, 2006
Portland, OR  September 16, 2006
Milwaukee, WI  September 16, 2006
Dallas, TX  September 16, 2006
New Orleans, LA  November 18, 2006
Philadelphia, PA  November 18, 2006
Sacramento, CA  November 18, 2006
Minneapolis, MN  November 18, 2006
Chicago, IL  April 28, 2007
Boston, MA  April 28, 2007
Los Angeles, CA  April 28, 2007
Atlanta, GA  April 28, 2007

Art Therapy Credentials Board, Inc.
3 Terrace Way, Suite B
Greensboro, NC 27403-3660