

# The PRN Report

## accp

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### ***A Note from President Brad Boucher...***

#### **You've Come a Long Way, Baby!**

In 1991, I vividly remember attending my first Board of Regents (BOR) meeting in Toronto, Ontario. One of the agenda items for that particular meeting was for the Regents to approve a plan to establish a new entity within the College's organizational structure (i.e., Practice and Research Networks or "PRNs."). The debate was lively to say the least!

Some argued that a mechanism for focused networking within the College was needed, especially considering the substantial growth in membership that had occurred over the preceding 12 years (note: our membership in 1991 was a whopping 1800 members). Others contended that the College was opening "Pandora's Box" and that eventually the PRNs would dominate ACCP's activities and agenda, thereby becoming a classic example of the "tail wagging the dog." Worse yet, it was postulated that the PRNs might splinter off from the College resulting in greater fragmentation within the profession and a loss in ACCP membership. Conversely, the PRNs might fall flat on their faces as had been the fate with similar groups within other pharmacy organizations in the past. Despite these latter concerns, the decision of the BOR that afternoon was to approve the concept of PRNs, and the rest is history, as they say!

Ten years later, the PRNs have not only proven to be viable and desired entities within the College, but are unequivocally an integral component of ACCP's ongoing success. And their growth is not over! Since 1993, the number of PRNs has grown from 7 to 19 with two additional PRNs having been approved in January 2002, namely, Clinical Administration and Education and Training. Approximately 45% of College members belong to at least one PRN, which speaks volumes to their popularity. Noteworthy is the fact that not a single PRN was formed as a directive from the BOR. I firmly believe that it has been this "grassroots" quality shared by all of the PRNs that has been the secret to their success. Only when a

critical mass of College members see an unmet need to network with other members who share common areas of practice and/or research interest is a PRN spawned. The energy and excitement that is inevitably generated from the networks' activities then sustains the PRN into the future. It most definitely is a process that works!

To fully take advantage of the intellectual resources and leadership within each PRN and to plan for their continued growth, a Task Force on PRNs was charged by then-President Barry Carter last year to develop a thought paper regarding the future roles and responsibilities of the PRNs within ACCP. This Task Force, chaired by Michael Klepser, submitted its final report to the Board of Regents in the summer of 2001. In this complete and insightful report, the Task Force reaffirmed the important functions currently provided by the PRNs in serving their members. These functions include the provision of high-quality and technically sophisticated continuing education, fostering an environment for intellectual interchange, offering a setting for social interaction, and nurturing the development of future College leaders. The Task Force also offered numerous recommendations on issues related to the optimal functioning of the PRNs in relationship to each other as well as with the BOR. Included among their many recommendations were:

- development of more formalized processes for developing joint educational and social events among PRNs;

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- creation of a PRN officers meeting and training session in conjunction with the ACCP Annual Meeting and Spring Forum;
- greater utilization of the College Web site for communication and intellectual exchange among PRN members as well as among the PRNs (e.g., PRN Chairs' listserv) and the BOR;
- requirement for greater uniformity among PRNs as to their leadership structure as well as the responsibilities and expectations of their officers;
- increased utilization of the PRNs by the Annual and Spring Forum Program Committees relative to the identification of topics and speakers for upcoming ACCP meetings;
- greater focus on the nurturing of students, residents and fellows within each PRN; and
- enhancement of communication between a PRN's officers and the BOR liaison for each PRN.

It should come as no surprise that the BOR enthusiastically received the Task Force report in August and has already implemented many of their recommendations.

Much has changed in our profession and the College since 1991. In reminiscing, however, it is truly remarkable how few growing pains the PRNs have experienced along the way to their place of prominence within ACCP today. Speaking for the board members of a decade ago of that new entity within the College called the Practice and Research Networks, "You've come along way, baby!"

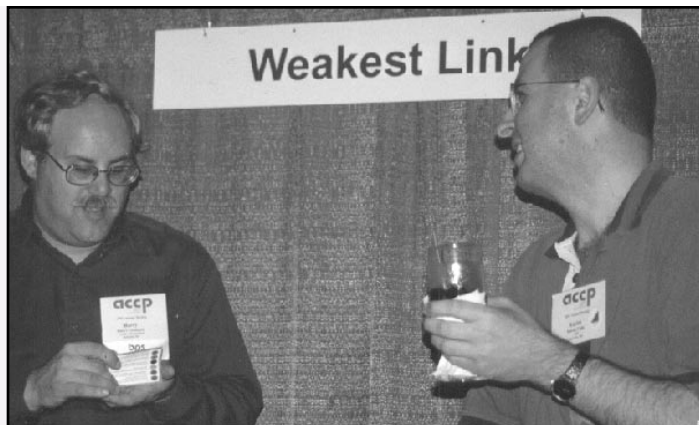
In fact, as the grassroots of the College, the PRNs now truly represent the heart and soul of our great organization.

### **Ready to Run For PRN Office? Nominations Begin Soon**

Do you have the desire to become involved in the leadership of a PRN? If so, take action now and run for an office! PRNs will soon be seeking candidates for their upcoming elections. PRN Nomination Committees are forming and the call for nominations will go out in March.

If you are interested in serving as a PRN officer, or would like to nominate someone, contact that PRN's chair right away. A list of current chairs' phone numbers and e-mail addresses is included in this newsletter. Also, the process for conducting PRN elections is as follows:

- The Nominations Committee will consist of at least two individuals who are appointed by the PRN's chair; these individuals may be the PRN's current elected officers.



*PRN members assisted during the games at the Research Institute/PRN Reception and Silent Auction held at the 2001 ACCP Annual Meeting in Tampa, Florida.*

- Those who comprise a PRN's Nominations Committee will be ineligible to run for office in that PRN's election that year.
- The Nominations Committee should prepare a slate of candidates. As they do this, the members of the Nominations Committee should be certain to share the timeline and procedures for the election, along with a list of expected duties, with each candidate.
- Whenever possible, there shall be two or three candidates for each office up for election. In those infrequent cases when only one candidate can be identified, an election will still be held, with voters given the option of identifying a write-in candidate. In those cases when there are more than three possible candidates, it will be the duty of the PRN's Nominations Committee to make the final selection of candidates for the slate.
- The Nominations Committee will obtain a brief biographical sketch or statement from each candidate that shall be included in the ballot mailed to members.

PRN elections will occur according to the following timetable:

- Call for nominations: March
- Submission of camera-ready ballots and candidate biographies to ACCP for July 15 mailing: June 17
- Mailing of ballots: July 15
- Receipt of ballots at ACCP headquarters (6-8 weeks prior to the Annual Meeting): August 23
- Nominations Committee notifies all candidates of results of election: within 10 days of election

## Spring Forum PRN Schedule At-A-Glance

### Saturday, April 6

#### 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. **Seizing Leadership: What Science Tells Us About Leading People**

Developed by the ACCP Task Force on Leadership  
*Supported by an unrestricted educational grant from Wyeth-Ayerst Pharmaceuticals*  
(Separate registration required.)

#### 2:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. **From Laboratory to Patient: Maximizing Therapy in Patients with HIV Infection**

*Cosponsored by Virology Education; Utrecht, The Netherlands*  
(Separate registration required.)

#### 2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. **Meeting Registration**

#### 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. **Industry Classrooms**

- **Acid Suppression in the Hospitalized Patient: Incorporating Evidence into Clinical Practice**  
*Supported by Wyeth Pharmaceuticals; Sponsored by University of Wisconsin*
- **New Treatment Paradigms with Azalides and Macrolides**  
*Supported by Pfizer, Inc.; Sponsored by Innovative Medical Education*

### Sunday, April 7

#### 7:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. **Meeting Registration**

#### 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Industry Classroom**

- **New Advances in Hemostasis Management**  
*Supported by Novo Nordisk Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; Sponsored by University of Illinois at Chicago*

#### 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **PRN Officers' Meeting**

#### 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. **Industry Classroom**

- **Pharmacogenomics and Biotechnology**  
*Supported by Amgen, Inc.; Sponsored by University of Tennessee*

#### 4:00 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. **Opening General Session**

- **To Err is Human: The Challenge of Improving Medication Safety—Kenneth Shine, M.D.**
- **Young Investigator Award Lecture: Characterization of Antifungal Pharmacodynamics—Michael E. Klepser, Pharm.D.**

#### 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. **Opening Reception**

### Monday, April 8

#### 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Meeting Registration**

#### 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **PRN Focus Sessions**

##### *Critical Care*—**Critical Care Practice Updates**

##### *Nephrology*—**Anticoagulation in Renal Failure**

#### 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. **PRN Business Meetings**

**Central Nervous System**—Those with special interest in the central nervous system are invited to join this PRN for its business meeting.

**Clinical Administration**—Get in on the ground floor of this recently formed PRN whose focus is clinical administration.

**Education and Training**—Also recently formed, this PRN invites those interested to join its members for their business meeting.

**Pharmacokinetics/Pharmacodynamics**—This PRN invites all who are interested to attend its business meeting. Time for socializing will be available.

**Women's Health**—The Women's Health PRN will hold its business meeting, which is open to all who are interested.

#### 11:15 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. **PRN Business Meetings and Networking Forums**

**Adult Medicine**—Interested attendees are invited to join the Adult Medicine PRN for its business meeting and journal club discussion. A light lunch and refreshments will be served.

**Hematology/Oncology**—Interested attendees are welcome to join this PRN for its business meeting. A buffet lunch and refreshments will be provided.

**Infectious Diseases**—The Infectious Diseases PRN invites all interested attendees to its business meeting, which will include a buffet lunch and refreshments courtesy of Aventis and Ortho-McNeil Pharmaceuticals

**Pain Management**—All interested persons may join this PRN for its business meeting and to hear members describe their practices. Snacks and refreshments will be available for attendees, courtesy of Purdue Pharma.

#### 1:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. **PRN Focus Session**

**Ambulatory Care and GI/Liver/Nutrition—COX-2 Selective Versus Nonselective NSAIDs: Clinical Issues and Controversies**

5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. **PRN Business Meetings and Networking Forums**

**Cardiology**—All are invited to join the PRN for its business meeting and networking forum. A guest speaker will be featured, and hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be provided.

**Geriatrics**—Following their business meeting, members and all who are interested will take part in a discussion titled, “What should we teach pharmacy students about geriatric pharmacotherapy?”. Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be provided.

**GI/Liver/Nutrition**—All interested attendees are invited to this PRN's combined business meeting and networking forum, during which hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be provided courtesy of Wyeth Pharmaceuticals.

**Immunology/Transplantation**—This PRN invites all to attend its business meeting and networking forum. Dr. Theodore Sievers is expected to speak about immunosuppressive drug monitoring. Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be available to those who attend, courtesy of Novartis.

**Outcomes and Economics**—Attendees with this interest should attend its business meeting and networking forum, where light snacks and refreshments will be provided.

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. **PRN Business Meetings and Networking Forums**

**Ambulatory Care**—The Ambulatory Care PRN has an exciting evening planned and invites interested attendees to join them. Besides a business meeting, the PRN will host an icebreaker session, a pharmacy-based game show, and two clinical pearls presentations. A buffet and refreshments will also be provided.

**Critical Care**—This PRN has planned a busy evening for business and networking, and a buffet with refreshments will be available, courtesy of Eli Lilly and Company. All attendees are invited to attend.

**Nephrology**—Following their business meeting, members plan to discuss their clinical practice and research activities. Food and refreshments will be provided for all who are interested.

**Pediatrics**—The Pediatrics PRN will host a business meeting and networking forum, during which a session on “Significant Papers in Pediatrics” will take place. All who are interested should to attend. Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be provided.

7:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. **PRN Business Meetings and Networking Forum**

**Pharmaceutical Industry**—During its business meeting and networking forum this group will review the activities of the PRN and ACCP. Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be available, and all interested persons are invited.

**Tuesday, April 9**

7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Meeting Registration**

8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. **PRN Focus Sessions**

**Adult Medicine—Preventive Strategies in Adult Medicine**

**Women's Health—Pregnancy-Induced Complications: Hyperemesis, Gestational Diabetes, Hypertension, and Postpartum Hemorrhage**

11:45 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. **ACCP Classic Golf Tournament**

12:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. **Historic and Victorian Districts Tour of Savannah**

7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **Scientific Poster Session**

- **Best Poster and Best Student, Resident, Fellow Paper Competitions**
- **Dessert Reception**

**Wednesday, April 10**

7:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. **Meeting Registration**

8:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. **PRN Focus Session**

**Pharmacokinetics/Pharmacodynamics and Geriatrics—The Impact of Gender, Age, Genetics, and Obesity on Drug Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics**

10:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. **PRN Focus Sessions**

**Hematology/Oncology—Harnessing the Immune System to Eradicate Cancer**

**Infectious Diseases—Antimicrobial Pharmacodynamics: Specific Issues and Updates**

For more information about the ACCP Spring Forum/Updates in Therapeutics, go to [www.accp.com/02spring.htm](http://www.accp.com/02spring.htm).

## PRN News Briefs

### Critical Care PRN

The Critical Care PRN is soliciting volunteers for committee service within the PRN. Anyone interested in serving on these committees should contact Scott Hanes, Critical Care PRN Chair, at [shanes@utm.edu](mailto:shanes@utm.edu).

**Research Committee I** is to complete a survey of critical care pharmacy services and develop a research project, which may be titled, "Influence of Pharmacists' Participation on the Adequacy of Empiric Antibiotic Selection for Nosocomial Pneumonia and Related Outcomes."

According to Hanes, the survey would be conducted in collaboration with the Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmacology section within the Society of Critical Care Medicine. "This survey is being developed to ascertain the current status of critical care pharmacy practice with regard to the recently published position paper on critical care pharmacy services developed by the Society of Critical Care Medicine and American College of Clinical Pharmacy Task Force on Critical Care Pharmacy Services," Hanes said.

**Research Committee II** will be working to develop a travel award program and guidelines for evaluation of applicants. "This program is being considered to foster abstract submissions in the area of critical care, encourage meeting attendance, and provide a format for poster presentation and collegial discussion," Hanes stated.

### Nephrology PRN

The Nephrology Drug Surveillance Network was formed approximately two years ago. The purpose of this network was to create an established process by which members could work collaboratively to evaluate medication usage in patients with renal diseases.

The strength of this type of arrangement is the ability to evaluate larger numbers of patients than any one investigator could alone provide. Also, all members of the Nephrology PRN have an opportunity to gain experience in conducting research. Although the structure and format for this collaborative approach have been challenging to initiate, the first project was recently completed. Some of the results from this project will be presented at the 2002 Spring Practice and Research Forum.

### Central Nervous System PRN

CNS Chair Michael Jann spoke to the Pediatrics PRN recently about working on a scholarship program in honor of Bruce Parks' contributions to the PRNs. Parks, of Jackson, Mississippi, had been a member of ACCP since 1984 and had served in many roles, one of which was as an active member of the CNS and Pediatrics PRNs. More discussion on organizing a scholarship will

take place at the ACCP Spring Forum in Savannah, Georgia.

### GI/Liver/Nutrition PRN

At the past two Annual Meetings, GI/Liver/Nutrition PRN Networking Forums have featured an expert guest. The role of these guests has been to lead a discussion in an area of their expertise. At the Los Angeles meeting, the guest was Dennis McCarthy, M.D.; Professor of Medicine at the University of New Mexico. He led an excellent discussion on the pathophysiology of stress-related mucosal lesions. In Tampa, the guest was James Scolapio, M.D. Dr. Scolapio is a gastroenterologist at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Florida, and an expert on short bowel syndrome.

PRN Chair John Siepler said, "We will continue to try to have PRN Networking Forums that will be stimulating and worthwhile for all the membership to attend. Our plans for Savannah are not firm yet, but we are working on having another excellent speaker."

### PRN Membership Totals

Adult Medicine	238
Ambulatory Care	816
Cardiology	436
Central Nervous System	203
Clinical Administration	11
Critical Care	415
Education and Training	24
Geriatrics	159
GI/Liver/Nutrition	88
Hematology/Oncology	263
Immunology/Transplantation	146
Infectious Diseases	443
Nephrology	138
Outcomes and Economics	179
Pain Management	160
Pediatrics	232
Pharmaceutical Industry	285
Pharmacokinetics/Dynamics	143
Women's Health	128

The logo for the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) features the letters "ACCP" in a bold, italicized, sans-serif font. To the right of the letters are three dots, suggesting a continuation or a path forward.

**WHERE PHARMACY IS GOING**

## Two New PRNs!

New Practice and Research Networks (PRNs) for Clinical Administration and for Education and Training were recognized by the Board of Regents at its January meeting.

The Clinical Administration PRN, led by Tom Gray, is for all who manage clinical practitioners or services. Some of the goals of the PRN are to enhance networking among members involved in administration, share and learn managerial skills, and exchange ideas regarding clinical programs and their development. To become involved with the Clinical Administration PRN, contact Tom Gray at (810) 606-6707 or [tgray@genesys.org](mailto:tgray@genesys.org).

The purpose of the Education and Training PRN, led by Mary Roth, is to provide an opportunity to network with others who share similar interests, and to work collaboratively to develop programs and projects to advance pharmacy education and training. This group anticipates focusing on issues such as mentoring, teaching other health professionals, developing a residency or fellowship program, promotion and tenure, and how to be a good preceptor. Contact Mary Roth at (919) 843-8083 or [mroth@unc.edu](mailto:mroth@unc.edu) for information about becoming active in this PRN.

This brings the total number of PRNs within ACCP to 19. Not quite one-half of all ACCP members belong to at least one PRN, and the average PRN member belongs to 1.5 PRNs. Annual dues for each PRN are \$15 and PRN membership runs concurrently with an individual's membership year.

To join any ACCP PRN:

- 1) Call ACCP at (816) 531-2177;
- 2) Join online at [www.accp.com/ClinNet/prns.php](http://www.accp.com/ClinNet/prns.php); or
- 3) Download a membership application from [www.accp.com](http://www.accp.com) and complete the information for the PRN in which you are interested.

**For more information about PRN membership, you may e-mail ACCP at [accp@accp.com](mailto:accp@accp.com).**



*A PRN member helps instruct contestants at the golf game, which was part of the 2001 Silent Auction to benefit the ACCP Research Institute.*

## PRN Contact Information

### For more information on PRNs:

- Adult Medicine:** Wanda Kilzer, (405) 271-6878; [wanda-kilzer@ouhsc.edu](mailto:wanda-kilzer@ouhsc.edu)  
**Ambulatory Care:** Stuart Haines, (410) 706-1865; [shaines@umaryland.edu](mailto:shaines@umaryland.edu)  
**Cardiology:** Mark Munger, (801) 581-6165; [mmunger@hsc.utah.edu](mailto:mmunger@hsc.utah.edu)  
**Central Nervous System:** Michael Jann, (678) 547-6342; [jann\\_mw@mercer.edu](mailto:jann_mw@mercer.edu)  
**Clinical Administration:** Thomas Gray, (810) 606-6707; [tgray@genesys.org](mailto:tgray@genesys.org)  
**Critical Care:** Scott Hanes, (901) 448-7197; [shanes@utm.edu](mailto:shanes@utm.edu)  
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**Geriatrics:** Robert Maher, (412) 396-5134; [maher@duq.edu](mailto:maher@duq.edu)  
**GI/Liver/Nutrition:** John Siepler, (916) 703-4024; [john.siepler@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu](mailto:john.siepler@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu)  
**Hematology/Oncology:** Jill Kolesar, (608) 262-5549; [jmkolesar@pharmacy.wisc.edu](mailto:jmkolesar@pharmacy.wisc.edu)  
**Immunology/Transplantation:** Curtis Holt, (310) 206-4952; [cholt@surgery.medsch.ucla.edu](mailto:cholt@surgery.medsch.ucla.edu)  
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**Pharmacokinetics/Pharmacodynamics:** Michael Burton, (405) 271-6878; [michael-burton@ouhsc.edu](mailto:michael-burton@ouhsc.edu)  
**Women's Health:** Julie Kelsey, (804) 982-4398; [jjk3u@virginia.edu](mailto:jjk3u@virginia.edu)





*The PRNs have been important to the success of Campaign 2005. The Ambulatory Care PRN is among the PRNs that have contributed, and it won the bidding to shave then-ACCP President Barry Carter's head at the 2001 Annual Meeting.*

### **PRNs Part of Success of Campaign 2005**

Campaign 2005 is an ongoing effort to establish an endowed fund of at least \$2.5 million for the ACCP Research Institute by the end of 2005, and PRNs have been among those leading the effort.

Ambulatory Care PRN Chair Stuart Haines said, "Campaign 2005 will generate the funding needed to fuel ACCP's research agenda. Many worthwhile projects go unfunded because they don't fall into the specific therapeutic areas which currently receive funding through the ACCP Research Institute. Furthermore, the size and scope of these projects are somewhat limited. With this additional funding, ACCP and its members can have even greater impact in generating new knowledge that expands the frontiers of clinical pharmacy."

The Research Institute/PRN Reception and Silent Auction, which was supported by Merck and Co., Inc., was a huge success at the recent Annual Meeting in Tampa, Florida. The Silent Auction raised almost \$60,000 for Campaign 2005. This included a \$20,000 donation from Merck, nearly \$23,000 from auction and raffle items, and donations of \$5000 from the Ambulatory Care, Hematology/Oncology, and Infectious Diseases PRNs. The Central Nervous System PRN pitched in with \$1000, and the Women's Health PRN with \$500.

"The PRNs have an important role in helping the organization reach the Campaign 2005 goals," Haines said. "While some of the larger and wealthier PRNs

can and have directly contributed by giving financially, I think, more importantly, the leadership in each PRN can support Campaign 2005 by increasing awareness and encouraging individual contributions."

During the Silent Auction, the Ambulatory Care PRN won the bidding to shave then-ACCP President Barry Carter's head. "The silent auction was a tremendous success," Haines said. "There was a sense of excitement in the air. The opportunity to witness someone shaving Barry Carter's head was too good to pass up. During the Ambulatory Care PRN business meeting, it was initially suggested that we start a campaign to "SAVE BARRY'S HEAD." But after some debate, we decided that it would be a lot more fun to SHAVE his head. The vote was unanimous!"

### **Many Electronic Services for PRNs**

Technology is providing increasingly numerous ways for ACCP to serve the PRNs and their members. Among the most recent are:

- automatic sign up of PRN members to PRN mailing lists, greatly facilitating their ease of communication;
- addition of searchable archives of mailing list discussions; and
- choice to receive mailing list discussions in real-time, as a once-daily digest, or to not receive them at all!

Of course, the Web page for each PRN has all the usual helpful items, such as:

- listings of each PRN's officers and how to reach them;
- access to the mailing lists and mailing list archives;
- searchable PRN membership directories;
- mission statements for each PRN;
- back copies of each PRN's newsletters;
- back copies of *The PRN Report*; and
- other key documents and postings.

All you need to do is go to [www.accp.com](http://www.accp.com) and click on "PRNs". From there, select any PRN of which you are a member, and follow the links! If you would like to change how you receive the mailing list messages, just click on "Services for PRN Members". If you would like to join a new PRN, just follow the instructions that appear when you click the PRN in which you are interested.

If you have questions or suggestions to improve the PRN sections, or any section, of the Web site, ACCP staff will gladly receive them. Please direct your inquiries to Elisa Case at (816) 531-2177 or [ecase@accp.com](mailto:ecase@accp.com).