

# United Council for Neurologic Subspecialties (UCNS) Report

## Accreditation

133 fellowships (14 new fellowships approved this year)

Neurocritical Care - 49

Behavioral Neurology & Neuropsychiatry - 25

Headache Medicine - 25

Neuro-oncology - 19

Clinical Neuromuscular Pathology - 6

Geriatric Neurology - 3

Neuroimaging - 3

Autonomic Disorders - 2

Neural Repair and Rehabilitation - 1

## Certification

2,166 diplomates (including 625 new diplomates)

Certification examinations in: Neuroimaging, Neuro-oncology and Neurocritical Care administered in 2013

Certification examinations in: Headache Medicine, Behavioral Neurology & Neuropsychiatry, and Neural Repair and Rehabilitation scheduled for 2014

First certification examination in Clinical Neuromuscular Pathology scheduled for 2015

Certification examinations in: Autonomic Disorders and in Geriatric Neurology temporarily suspended because of an insufficient number of programs

UNITED COUNCIL  
FOR  
NEUROLOGIC  
SUBSPECIALTIES

MEMORANDUM

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American Neurological Association

Association of University Professors  
of Neurology

Child Neurology Society

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**To:** American Neurological Association  
Association of University Professors of Neurology

**From:** Paul M. Vespa, MD, UCNS Chair

**cc:** John Kohring, UCNS Executive Director  
Linda Scher, AUPN Executive Director  
Victoria Elliott, ANA Executive Director  
David Fink, MD  
José Biller, MD

**Date:** March 18, 2014

**Subject:** UCNS Summary Report

The United Council for Neurologic Subspecialties (UCNS) is pleased to provide an update on UCNS to the American Neurological Association (ANA) and the Association of University Professors of Neurology (AUPN). The following is a summary of activities since our fall report.

Board of Directors

José Biller, MD continues to serve as the ANA representative on the UCNS Board and David J. Fink, MD continues to serve as the AUPN representative on the Board. The Board will hold its annual meeting in April in Philadelphia in conjunction with the American Academy of Neurology's Annual Meeting. UCNS also will have a booth in the exhibit hall.

Accreditation Council Overview

Lori A. Schuh, MD is Chair of the Accreditation Council. Dr. Schuh is Vice President of Academic Affairs at Spectrum Health in Michigan. Two new AUPN representatives were appointed in June. They are Angela N. Hays, MD and Jennifer S. Kriegler, MD. Dr. Hays is director of the Neurocritical Care fellowship at the Medical College of South Carolina and Dr. Kriegler is director of the Headache Medicine fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic. Clifton Gooch,

MD and Eric Sorenson, MD continue to represent the ANA on the Accreditation Council.

This fall, the Board approved the Accreditation Council's recommendations to accredit 14 new fellowship programs. This brings the total number of UCNS-accredited fellowships to 133. They are in 30 states and one Canadian province. The deadline for submitting applications for spring review was December 1, 2013. Six applications for accreditation of new programs were received. The spring meeting of the Accreditation Council is April 21.

Each UCNS subspecialty has program requirements that are used to determine whether a fellowship program may be accredited. Subspecialties must review their program requirements once every five years. In addition to subspecialty-specific program requirements, UCNS has developed common program requirements, which must be used by each subspecialty. The revised common program requirements were approved by the Board in 2012. In the fall, revised program requirements for the Autonomic Disorders, Geriatric Neurology, Neurocritical Care, and Neuroimaging subspecialties were approved by the Board.

#### Certification Council Update

Three certification examinations were administered in 2013. The total number of UCNS diplomates now stands at 2,168. UCNS diplomates practice in 49 states, four Canadian provinces, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Examinations in Headache Medicine (HM), Behavioral Neurology & Neuropsychiatry (BNNP), and Neural Repair and Rehabilitation (NRR) are scheduled for 2014. The HM and BNNP examinations will be the last in their practice tracks. Thereafter, only graduates of UCNS-accredited programs will be eligible to sit for certification examinations in these subspecialties.

At its spring meeting last year, the Board of Directors approved an increase of \$100 in the certification examination fee to be effective in 2016. At its meeting this coming April, the Board will act on a request by the Neuro-oncology (NO) subspecialty to extend the NO practice track through the 2015 examination.

#### Financial Summary

UCNS ended 2013 with a substantial operating surplus without asking its parent organizations (which include ANA and AUPN) for operating support grants. While the current year will be less successful than 2013, we continue to believe that we can balance our 2014 budget without asking the parent organizations for operating support grants.

On behalf of the UCNS Board and its Councils, I appreciate the opportunity to provide you with this report. If you should have any questions regarding UCNS, please feel free to contact me or John Kohring, UCNS Executive director, at 612-928-6106 or [jkohring@ucns.org](mailto:jkohring@ucns.org).