

RESNA RE-PSG Meeting Minutes

June 21, 2004

Kevin Caves presented a review of the RE-PSG working structure as well as an update of RE-PSG activities over the past year.

Information and Communications: Goal is to develop mechanism to help us get the word out about RE and facilitate communication with in the PSG. Thanks to Dave Jaffe for his efforts in the development of the PSG webpage as well as the coordination of the RE-PSG listserv. The website can be accessed at: <http://www.resna.org/sigs/repsg/>

Training and Education: Goal is to ensure that there is more education and training content for RE-PSG members at the annual conference. RE content at this year's conference was excellent. Thanks to Ronny Gaal for his work in soliciting rehab engineering content. There were several excellent preconference instructional courses as well as some great workshop and platform sessions. Additionally this year saw the return of the Don Ross lecture given by Stephen Sundarro of the University of S. Florida on "Multicultural aspect of work integration and technology." We are looking to have another professional development course conducted by a presenter from outside RESNA. Work has already begun regarding setting up preconference and concurrent sessions during the conference. Ronny has agreed to continue with training and education into 2005. If you are interested in contributing contact Ronny Gaal at rgaal@earthlink.net

RET Credential: As of the conference, 24 individuals have received the RET credential. Six individuals have registered to take the RET Exam after the conference. The RET is our credential and another mechanism for recognition of the field. Be aware that the grandfather period waiving the four year, ABET accredited engineering degree expires December 31, 2005. If you fall into this category and plan to take the RET, now is the time to do so. For more information, check out:

<http://www.resna.org/PracInAT/CertifiedPractice/GettingCertificate/RETtext.html>

RET Exam Update: The Professional Standards Board (PSB) is planning on updating the ATP/ATS and RET Exams. Paul Schwartz, our representative on the PSB, is looking for new questions for the RET Exam. Please forward your questions to Paul at schwartzpa@uwstout.edu

Definition of RE/Documenting the Field: Goal is to develop and refine materials that can be used to help us define who we are, what we do and what we do not do. The RE-PSG website has information related to the field, including salary surveys, rehab engineering job descriptions and other historical documents. If you have additional information that might be useful for the field, please forward that information on to Maureen Linden at mlinden@cincigoodwill.org

Engineers and Technologists: Names and email addresses were taken to take part in an online discussion regarding the distinction between rehab engineer and rehab technologist. We are looking for 2-4 individuals who consider identify them selves as rehab technologist to participate in the discussion. Please contact Kevin Caves at kevin.caves@duke.edu for more information.

Promotion of the Profession: Goal is to develop and refine materials that can be used to help us define who we are, what we do and what we do not do.

Glenn Hedman gave an update on the CPT codes. A new CPT code, 97755 for assistive technology evaluation is now available in the 2004 AMA's CPT Coding book. Two activities that we wish to advance over the next year include the development of educational materials regarding the codes, how to use, sample billing forms, the development of a system to establish a history of successful billing, among other issues.

Additionally, we plan to continue the investigation of the procedure to become a CMS recognized health care provider which is necessary to bill Medicare for services.

Greg McGrew will be leading the effort on the development of educational materials related to the CPT codes. To get involved, contact Greg at mcgrewg@helenhayeshosp.org

Elections:

In order to have continuity over the next year and with the blessing of Maureen Linden, Vice Chair of the PSG, the members in attendance voted to extend the term of Kevin Caves as PSG Chair for an additional year. Maureen will become PSG chair at the 2005 RESNA meeting in Atlanta and will serve for 2 years. The PSG will need to elect a Vice Chair in 2005.

Respectfully submitted by Kevin Caves