



2008 Annual Report to Membership

Executive Director



David A. Lichter
Executive Director

Wow, what a year of activity! Throughout 2008 I communicated with you both in *NACC Now* and in my column in *Vision* on our initiatives related to implementing the NACC strategic plan. As I reported in my column in the January-February 2009 edition of *Vision*, we concluded 2008 with gratitude for the significant steps taken in 2008 within NACC to promote the ministry of spiritual care, and to renew the opportunities for NACC members to gather with one another, and with others involved in the chaplaincy ministry. Let me

highlight three of these steps.

In helping to promote chaplaincy, the NACC/CHA Pastoral Care Summit in October 2007 continued to bear fruit through the four task forces (metrics, care services, recruitment, and education/credentialing) that met monthly to create useful deliverables that will benefit healthcare systems and other entities in their work with chaplains. You can go to my column in the January *Vision* to review that work. We are grateful that CHA is also advocating for pastoral care by dedicating its 2009 spring issue of *Health Progress* to pastoral care ministry.

Secondly, we were able to partner on two research projects: one with the Catholic Health Association (CHA) on the status of pastoral/spiritual care within Catholic health settings, and the other, with three other associations of the Spiritual Care Collaborative to produce the 2008 Compensation Study. The results of these studies continue to prove helpful to healthcare leaders.

Thirdly, and most importantly, in 2008 we were able to strengthen communication among members and resurrect types of local chaplain gatherings in every region of the country. The *NACC Now* has become a valuable tool of communication and networking among members. And more than 600 members participated in over 20 local gatherings. Many members came forth to help plan and execute these events, and several partner associations and health entities collaborated with us to make them happen. Let's keep them going!

We now have state liaisons who will help foster communication among members and assist with the coordination of future events. We also had more than 500 members participate in the 2008 NACC National Conference in Indianapolis in April 2008.

The challenges of our economy affect all of us in 2009. We will work closely with you to ensure that NACC will be a source of networking and ongoing communication with and for you as you turn to each other for wisdom, support, encouragement and prayer. We will be called upon to be there for one another, and we are called upon to minister to those we serve in our respective places of employment.

May we continue God's healing ministry. Blessings on your ministries!

David A. Lichter, D.Min.
Executive Director

2008 Board of Directors

CHAIR

Karen Pugliese, M.A.
Chaplain
Central DuPage Hospital
Winfield, IL

CHAIR-ELECT/SECRETARY

Barbara Brumleve, SSND, Ph.D.
CPE Supervisor
Alegent Health Care
Omaha, NE

TREASURER

Geraldine M. Hoyler, CSC
Notre Dame, IN

EPISCOPAL LIAISON

Most Rev. Randolph Calvo, D.D., J.C.D.
Bishop of Reno
Reno, NV

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

David A. Lichter, D.Min.
National Association of Catholic Chaplains
Milwaukee, WI

Patrick H. Bolton, M.Div.
Director of Pastoral Care
Mercy Medical Center
Daphne, AL

Alan Bowman, M.Div., M.B.A.
Vice President, Mission Integration
Catholic Health Initiatives
Denver, CO

Bridget Deegan-Krause, M.Div.
Ferndale, MI

Norma Gutierrez, MCDP
Chaplain
St. Mary Medical Center
Long Beach, CA

Paul D. Marceau, Th.D.
Vice President, Mission Services and Ethics
Trinity Health
Novi, MI

John Pollack, M.Div.
Chief, Spiritual Ministry Dept.
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, MD

Bonnie J. Burnett, M.Div.
System Director of Mission and Spirituality
CHRISTUS Health
Houston, TX

Certification Appeals Panel

Overview of the Appeal Process

Appeals can be filed when an applicant denied certification believes that NACC Standards and/or Procedures were violated. Anyone appealing the decision of the Commission regarding the denial of certification must clearly outline how a particular standard(s) or procedure(s) was violated.

The Appeals Panel members take seriously our review of certification interviews which have resulted in an appeal. Each appeal is reviewed by a panel of three persons who work collaboratively on the review of materials submitted. We may uphold the original decision to deny certification, or send a recommendation back to the Certification Commission to either grant certification or grant a new interview. The decisions of the Appeal Panel are final.

Appeals and Other Actions in 2008

From January through December 2008 the Appeals Panel received four appeals. One appeal was upheld; three were submitted in December 2008 and are still in process. Of the three in process, the appeals are being requested due to violation of procedures in conducting the interview. There continues to be evidence that interview teams do not know how to assess competency outside of a strict in-patient bedside model of chaplaincy.

Goals for Appeals Committee - 2009

- ▼ The Chair will participate in a one-hour conference call as part of the July 2009 Interview Team Educators Meeting/Training to discuss findings from appeals and implications for Interview Team Educators and teams.
- ▼ To explore how the decreasing number of CPE Supervisors in the NACC will affect future appeal work, and whether to propose opening this panel to certified Chaplains
- ▼ To work with the Certification Commission in regard to training of Certification Interview Teams so that:
 - Appeals related to violations of the procedures in conducting certification interviews will decrease by 75% by 2011.
 - Certification interview teams will become more proficient in assessing the competencies of persons in expanding pastoral care ministries, e.g. mission integration, healthcare ethics, management, and holistic healing positions.

*Mary Davis, Chair
Certification Appeals Panel*

2008 Members: Ms. Mary Davis (Chair), Mr. Eric Erickson, Dr. Gordon Hilsman, Dr. Daniel Petronella, Sr. Maureen Mitchell, RSM, Sr. Virginia Yeager, SSJ

Ethics Commission

The Ethics Commission had several teleconferences to get acquainted and establish a working relationship. That became very important when an ethics complaint was received at the national office. A thorough investigation of the allegations was made and the complaint was found to be groundless. A report of the action was sent to the Board and the background materials were placed in a confidential file at the national office. No other complaints have been filed.

*Pat Bradley, Chair
Ethics Commission*

2008 Members: Rev. Mr. T. Patrick Bradley (Chair), Mr. D.W. Donovan, Ms. Patricia Melesco, Rev. Eugene Pocernich, Ms. Mary M. Heintzkill, Ms. Marilyn Williams

Finance Committee

The finance committee is composed of board members and skilled persons appointed to serve on the committee. Each of the four committee meetings was held by conference call with excellent support provided by association staff.

The committee faced many challenges during the year, resulting from declining membership dues and the declining investment markets. The annual conference, held in Indianapolis, and stronger fund raising results were stronger contributors to the financial results of the association.

The committee reviewed the financial position and results of the association on a quarterly basis. The members also continued to monitor the cash position, which was negatively affected by financial results. Staff's management of expenses, in the face of contracting revenues, was an important consideration during the year. The

committee reviewed and recommended the 2009 budget to the board, with the understanding that efforts to increase revenues and restrain costs would continue.

The committee spent a considerable amount of time reviewing the investment of the portfolio of the association. The value of the portfolio declined as the market declined during the year. At year end this review remained ongoing.

*Geraldine M. Hoyler, CSC
Chair, Finance Committee*

2008 Members: Geraldine M. Hoyler, CSC (Chair), Rev. Mr. Clif Perryman, Mr. William Lucey, Mr. Michael Lemke

Interview Team Educators

The role of the Interview Team Educator (ITE) requires us to keep abreast of any changes and additions to our rules, Standards, policies and practices that might affect the certification process. 2008 posed some new exciting and challenging issues, all of which were met with patience, wisdom and dedication, both from the Certification Commission, the ITEs, the amazing group of Interviewers and the Applicants for Certification.

The central role of an ITE is to support the Interviewers who serve the certification process. Because the NACC is responsive to the feedback and recommendations from those involved, that process is constantly being improved and adjusted, making it important for Interviewers to be kept updated. Updates come in the form of annual training. In April 2008, NACC offered a training workshop for Certification Interviewers at the National Conference in Indianapolis, IN. It was well attended. In addition to the workshop, our training method includes pre-certification weekend conference calls. This year we expanded further to include online training and testing. (This supports NACC's "going green" efforts as well as allowing interviewers to access the training materials as often as they wish while building their knowledge.) The online materials were in addition to but did not replace the training calls in which interviewers are asked to participate. These calls help develop teamwork and are the obvious forum for shared learning. The availability of both media — online and conference calling — has improved the accessibility of training and thus improved the skills needed for the certification interview process. In an effort to keep the process fresh and effective, it will continue to go through minor revisions and improvements as a result of team feedback.

2008 marked several major changes that affected the certification process. In order to accommodate the integration of the revised NACC Standards, the Spring Interview Weekend was suspended. This had the result of allowing additional time for

Applicants to adapt to the revised Standards, but at the same time, it resulted in an abundance of interviews for the Fall Interview Weekend. Sixty-eight interviews took place in October at six different sites around the country. Despite the challenges imposed by the changes in Standards and the number of Applicants (and Interviewers), the weekend was extremely successful. Another change involved Interviewers having the Applicants' materials for two additional weeks — which was a blessing during their adaptation (for both Interviewers and Applicants) to the Standards. While change seems to be difficult for everyone, 2008 nevertheless heralded gentle transitions and positive outcomes.

During July, the ITEs met for two-and-a-half days in Milwaukee, overlapping with the Certification Commission Meeting, sharing and learning both separately and together. Three new ITEs were added to the ranks (knowing that several of the 'veteran' ITEs were coming to the end of their respective tenures) and together we prepared for the Fall Interview Weekend as well as the ongoing needs of Applicants and Interviewers for successful certification experiences. There was strong support shown for the work of the ITEs by members of the Commission, and ITEs felt a sense of renewed dedication and commitment to participation in the ongoing excellence of the NACC certification experience.

*Jane Mather,
Lead ITE*

2008 ITEs: Bro. James F. Adams, FMS, Mr. Robert J. Barnes, Ms. Annette Castello, Ms. Cathy Connelly, Mr. Michael J. Doyle, Deacon Darwin D. Dupree, Rev. Thomas B. Garlick, Ms. Camelia L. Hanemann, Sr. Colette Hanlon, SC, Dr. Sharon Mason, Mrs. Jane A. Mather, Mrs. Marie V. Polhamus, Ms. Judith A. Shemkovitz, Dr. Jane Smith, Mr. James E. Willsey

Standards Commission

This past year the Standards Commission worked extensively in two areas: review of policies and procedures and complete revision of the glossary to reflect the revised set of Standards for NACC. We met once in person at the national meeting of our Association in Indianapolis (March 3-5, 2008), and chose not to meet in the fall to conserve resources, but rather did our work through several conference calls.

We plan to complete the work on the glossary during our meeting before the Spiritual Care Collaborative in Orlando (Jan 30-Feb 1, 2009). In rewriting the glossary we made a close comparison with the glossary in the Accreditation handbook of the USCCB/CCA as well as that of ACPE. We also consulted other outside resources.

This work was accomplished through the dedication of the Commission members: John Gillman (chair), Mary Lou O'Gorman, Mary T. O'Neill, Jane W. Smith, and Sr. Jane Connolly. We also benefited from the valuable contributions of Alan Bowman (Board Representative), Rodger F. Accardi

(Certification Liaison), and D.W. Donovan (Ethics Liaison). Our thanks to Rod who will be completing his term as liaison. None of this work would have happened without the support of Susanne Chawszczewski from the National Office, who kept us on task and who carefully edited successive renditions of the glossary. Thanks to all of you!

For 2009 we will be reviewing sections of our Standards for any possible revisions in the future. We also plan to write a series of articles for *Vision* to explain individual Standards.

*John Gillman, Chair
Standards Commission*

2008 Members: Dr. John Gillman (Chair), Ms. Mary Lou O'Gorman, Dr. Mary Theresa O'Neill, Dr. Jane Smith, Sr. Jane Connolly, IHM, Mr. Alan Bowman, Mr. D.W. Donovan, Dr. Rodger Accardi.

National Office Staff

Executive Director

David A. Lichter, D.Min.

Director of Operations

Kathy Eldridge

Director of Education & Professional Practice

Susanne Chawszczewski, Ph.D.

Finances

Susan Walker

Executive Assistant

Cindy Bridges

Membership

Mary Pawicz

Special Projects

Philip Paradowski

Certification

Rose Mary Blanco-Alvarado

Becky Evans

Governance Committee

The Governance Committee's primary responsibilities are to review and monitor the Board of Director's composition, functions, communications, development, and performance. This includes human resource issues, nominations to the Board of Directors, and the review and updating of the NACC Constitution and By-Laws as needed. During 2008, the Governance Committee met nine times via phone conference calls.

The Governance Committee focused on creating the process to ensure calling forth our members to leadership positions that will promote our mission and ensure our future. A new Nomination Sub-Committee was developed to assist in recruiting and evaluating nominees for all leadership roles within the NACC. This includes a new selection and election process for board candidates. In addition, a broad review and revision of the roles, responsibilities and criteria of the various committees, commissions, and panels were incorporated into the NACC Constitution and By-Laws.

*Patrick Bolton, Chair
Governance Committee*

2008 Members: Mr. Patrick Bolton (Chair), Ms. Theresa V. Edmundson, Ms. Ann Hurst, Ms. Bridget Deegan-Krause, Dr. Paul Marceau, Ms. Karen Pugliese

Pastoral Care Week

The Pastoral Care Week Committee of COMISS met Jan. 5, 2008, in Washington DC. The theme for 2008 was Listening Presence. It was discussed that the website for Pastoral Care Week will have a survey for those using it to indicate what they would like to see in future years as well as having a space to share the stories of their celebrations so that others may be inspired. 2007 was the most active Pastoral Care Week in many years and many sites utilized the marketing tools that were offered. This also includes some sites outside of the United States. This year we are looking at a few new resources and again would love to hear in those survey responses items that you are seeking that were not offered. The committee is looking into the production of the poster in both English and Spanish. The website will be available at the end of May.

MaryBeth Cooper, BCC

*Representative to the COMISS Pastoral Care Week
Committee*

PlainViews Advisory Board

PlainViews is an e-newsletter for chaplains and other spiritual care providers. It features concise articles of interest and relevance to those serving as pastoral caregivers. *PlainViews* also provides a forum for ongoing dialogue, publishing on topics related to professionalism, spirituality, advocacy, research and pastoral education. After six years of regular publication, *PlainViews* has a subscriber base of over 8,000, and welcomes contributions from its readers in all of the aforementioned categories — especially those related to professional practice, education and research.

In 2007, *PlainViews* began accepting some longer articles which are published in a section entitled "LongView." The Book Review section also includes movies, videos and other media related to pastoral issues, and 'My Practice' allows chaplains to share innovative ideas with other chaplains. "Ethics Walk" — an interactive dialogue that engages conversations regarding ethical concerns — has also proven popular.

As the NACC certified member of *PlainViews'* editorial board (as well as a regular reader and contributor), I thank the NACC members who make use of *PlainViews* as a supplement to and extension of the ongoing professional education and conversation offered NACC members in *Vision*. We are grateful to have a link for it on the NACC web site and references in many *Vision* and NACC Now articles.

*Jane Mather, Special Representative,
PlainViews Advisory Board*

Certification Commission

The composition of the certification commission remained the same as it was during the 2007 year. At the end of 2008 four Commissioners completed their term of service. We acknowledge with gratitude the contributions that Dr. Rodger Accardi, Ms. Mary Carole Nelson, Mr. Robert Scheri, and Sr. Mary Skopal SSJ have made through their generous and gifted service on the Commission.

The work of the commission is aided greatly by the many interview team members and the Interview Team Educators, site hosts and welcoming committees. We are especially grateful to the number of institutions who give in-kind donations to allow their sites for our certification interviews.

During the past year the commission certified 54 new chaplains, approved the renewal of certification for 242 chaplains, granted supervisory candidacy to two members, and later in the year certified one of the supervisory candidates as an associate supervisor. For those noticing that the number of new chaplains was lower than last year, please note that we only had one round of chaplain interviews due to our changing the timeline when material was due. Changing the timeline provided for greater time for ITEs to train interview team members and allowed the national office staff time to enlist interviewers with less pressure. Changing the timeline and having interviews scheduled only for October 2008 allowed the ITEs and interviewers an opportunity to become more familiar with the revised Standards.

We continued this year to work on the revised Standards and update all the office communications to members. Another major focus of the Commission was the adoption of a certification procedures manual. This is now online and accessible to members and persons applying for initial certification.

The Commission continued to refine its communication of policies and practices through the use of a column in *Vision*. Many members who submitted their renewal of certification material at the end of 2007 did not receive a response until the Commission met at the annual conference in April. We realized that we needed to make the membership aware of the time line we use for renewal. Consequently, *Vision* carried an article noting the times during the year we act on renewal of certification requests. The membership also now receives the same information in the letter notifying them of their renewal cycle. Members now have the choice to have their material reviewed at the July or October meetings or to submit material until Dec. 31 and receive notification after the first meeting of the new calendar year at the time of the annual conference.

At the Indianapolis NACC Conference with board approval we

honored Ms. Theresa Lowther, Ms. Wendi Steinberg and Sr. Nancy Beckenhauer OSU with the Helen Hayes Scholarship for people in supervisory education. Commission members led highly successful workshops on certification, renewal of certification, interview training, and supervisor education and renewal. We also welcomed Rose Mary (Mar) Blanco-Alvarado as the new certification specialist.

During the summer we spent much time repopulating the Commission with four new members who will begin their terms in January 2009. These new Commission members are Dr. Joseph Bozzelli, Sr. Sheila Hammond, RSCJ, Sr. Julie Houser, CSJ, and Mrs. Jane Mather. Special thanks to all who considered joining the Commission.

During the 2008 year the Commission, being good stewards of our NACC finances, began to receive materials for our meetings via a secure file on the NACC website. Thus, we did not need to spend for Fed-Ex shipping of our meeting materials. Likewise, we also ensured that applicants for certification and members seeking renewals would be able to find their necessary materials on the NACC website to be downloaded and printed at home.

The Commission also expresses a debt of gratitude to Kathy Eldridge and Susanne Chawszczewski for their continued support of the Certification Commission during the past year, especially as we awaited our new certification specialist. They both assisted us while maintaining their own responsibilities.

An invitation: As we continue to grow and revitalize the NACC during the next few years with our strategic plan, on behalf of the Certification Commission, I would like to invite all members to consider becoming a member of an interview team. Many of us first became involved in the life of the NACC by belonging to certification interview teams. We will provide solid training and mentoring for first-timers. You gain colleagues and further appreciation of the wonderful ministry of chaplaincy. You also help to bring new members into the NACC to be able to enhance the healing ministry of Jesus.

*Rev. John T. Crabb, SJ, Chair
Certification Commission*

2008 Members: Rev. John T. Crabb (Chair), Dr. Rodger F. Accardi, Sr. Janet Biemann, RSM, Sr. Geraldine Krautkramer, OSF, Ms. Mary Carole Nelson, Rev. Agustin R. Orosa, MI, Mr. Robert Scheri, Sr. Mary R. Skopal, SSJ, Rev. James R. Yeakel, OSFS.

USCCB/CCA Liaison

Mary Lou O’Gorman met with Sr. Kay Sheskaitis in April 2008 at the NACC National Conference in Indianapolis, IN. Sr. Kay expressed appreciation for the valuable contributions of the NACC representatives to the USCCB/CCA Board of Directors, Mary Theresa O’Neill and Rev. Andrew Sioletti. She complimented NACC on the quality of the NACC Standards and Procedures for Certification, Renewal of Certification and Ethics that the USCCB/CCA had recently approved. She

appreciated the relationship and communication between the USCCB/CCA and the NACC as experienced through the NACC Liaison, the NACC representatives to the USCCB/CCA Board of Directors, and NACC Executive Director David Lichter.

*Mary Lou O’Gorman, Special Representative
USCCB/CCA*

Editorial Advisory Panel

More NACC members contributed to *Vision* by writing stories, new columns were developed, and more substantive themes were explored in the pages of *Vision* in 2008, thanks to the efforts of members of the editorial advisory panel.

Vision Editor David Lewellen, whose broad journalistic knowledge and impressive verbal skills were reflected in the publication he edited, resigned in January to take a position with *The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*. The editorial advisory panel and the NACC staff provided invaluable support to his successor, Ms. Laurie Hansen Cardona, who joined the NACC staff in a part-time freelance capacity in January.

Other changes for *Vision* in 2008:

- ▼ It changed from a monthly publication to a bimonthly (published every two months). This transition was made in light of the fact that NACC members now receive breaking chaplaincy news from the NACC national office biweekly through the Internet newsletter NACC Now and that the NACC website has expanded its resources.
- ▼ Paid position advertisements were removed from *Vision* when it became apparent that it was more expedient for both position seekers and institutions seeking job applicants to use the NACC website.

Members of the editorial advisory panel, together with NACC Executive Director David Lichter, envisioned that these recent changes would allow greater freedom for *Vision* to become an increasingly more substantive and relevant communications vehicle. Working toward this goal, panel members were instrumental in developing a consistent stream of themes for *Vision* during 2008. Themes included:

- ▼ "On a Chaplain's Bookshelf," in which several NACC members offered varied selections of books that enlighten, inspire and educate.
- ▼ "Exchange of Ideas," a grouping of articles that explored how the NACC currently encourages networking of members and the steps the NACC intends to take to provide a bright future in order to meet

members' online communication and education needs.

- ▼ "Ministering to a Diverse Population," through which readers were asked to reflect on how they respond to, learn about, and celebrate the differences in people they encounter in their ministries.
- ▼ "One Book: One Association," in which NACC members were invited to join fellow members in reading and reflecting on "The Year of Magical Thinking," by Joan Didion.
- ▼ An NACC 2008 National Conference roundup, with articles on major talks at the conference, interviews with conference speakers, and coverage of a smattering of workshops.

A new *Vision* column in 2008, titled "Advancing the Profession," focuses on the professional development of certified chaplains and the revised Standards for Ethics, Certification, and Renewal of Certification and what they mean to NACC members.

Another new column with a question-and-answer format involves a chaplain responding in his or her own words to a series of questions about that chaplain's life and ministry.

In 2008, panel members continued to write in-depth stories in areas of their own expertise and suggested writers for other pertinent articles. Panel member Paul Buche had continued success in attracting top-level researchers and academics to share their current research on relevant issues with chaplain-readers. A concerted effort was made to let readers know — through *Vision*, NACC Now and the NACC website — about upcoming *Vision* themes so that NACC members could contribute their own stories to *Vision*.

Laurie Hansen Cardona
Vision Editor

2008 Members: : Mr. Paul Buche, Norma Gutierrez, MCDP, Ms. Michelle Lemiesz, Ms. Linda Piotrowski, Ms. Michele LeDoux Sakurai, Rev. Freddy Washington, CSSp

The Joint Commission

Headquarters for The Joint Commission (TJC) is located just a few miles from my home. I was able to easily attend the Sixteenth Annual Invitational Liaison Network Forum on June 23 and 24, 2008, incurring no travel costs to NACC. It was an excellent opportunity for me to learn about the new Standards Interpretation Group, legislative efforts, infection control issues, the Joint Commission's Standards Improvement Initiative and in particular, TJC's project: Hospitals, Language, and Culture Study, "One Size Does Not Fit All: Meeting the Health Care Needs of Diverse Populations."

The most salient item for our profession is directly related to our strategic goals II: To Promote the Profession of Chaplaincy and V: To Engage Strategic Partners in Collaborative Work to Live Out Our Mission. I am pleased to report that in August 2008, TJC began developing accreditation standards for hospitals that will promote, facilitate, and advance the provision of culturally competent patient-centered care. This 18-month project will increase national attention to cultural competence, highlight its intersection with patient-centered care, and improve the safety and quality of care by improving patient-provider communication for all populations. TJC will then collaborate with the National Health Law Program to develop a guide for TJC surveyors and accredited hospitals to

implement the new standards. Among the issues embedded in cultural competence are ethics and morality; the meaning and value of medical treatment; the influence of religious and folk beliefs, spirituality and belief systems as sources of strength and solace; expressions of grief and bereavement — all of which are within the spiritual domain.

A multidisciplinary expert advisory panel, representing a broad range of stakeholders, will provide guidance regarding the principles, measures, structures, and processes for the standards. Although chaplains have served as liaisons to TJC, the appointment of our colleague, Chaplain Susan Wintz, M.Div., BCC, (current president of the Association of Professional Chaplains (APC)) to the 26-member advisory panel is a breakthrough opportunity for our profession. Rev. Wintz has contributed to national projects on culturally competent care, including those of TJC. She was a contributor to the development and publication of the 2006 book, "Providing Culturally and Linguistically Competent Health Care," and is the only chaplain appointed to this new expert advisory panel.

Karen Pugliese, *Special Representative*
The Joint Commission

NCHPEG

The 11th Annual Meeting of NCHPEG, which took place Sept. 4-5 in Bethesda, MD, focused on "Genetics and Common Disease." It was held later in the year than usual and lacked some of the dynamism of earlier meetings, but some important perspectives on genetic issues did emerge.

1. *One size doesn't fit all.* When the Human Genome Project was completed earlier in this decade, the public may have garnered the idea that a single disease like breast cancer was linked to the discovery of one or maybe two genes in the whole human genome. However, recent research has made it clear that a disease and its related components are often linked to many varied genes scattered throughout the whole genome. This means that much more research needs to be done genome-wide to get a better handle on how genetics might serve to address common threats like heart disease, cancer, diabetes, and even psychiatric disorders. Such genome-wide association studies, as they're called, are apt to be a major avenue of research in the future.
2. *Solutions are not just around the corner.* At first the solutions to common disease looked promising for the immediate future; but the jump from theory to practical solutions is still 10 years away or so. However, just like the completion of the Human Genome Project occurred quite ahead of schedule, some surprises or unexpected developments could happen to condense the timeline.
3. *The ethical-moral issues are not unilateral.* When President Obama recently opened the door to wider embryonic stem cell research, the American bishops and right-to-life groups rose up in protest. However, just like a true pro-life perspective encompasses a whole range of issues beyond abortion and embryonic stem cell research (e.g. war and capital punishment and environmental issues), so do genetic issues move beyond stem cell research to include important ethical concerns like non-discrimination in health insurance because of genetic information. *The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act* passed in 2008 has implications for assuring greater coverage for all citizens, especially the under-insured and the non-insured.
4. *What we call preventive medicine has an analog in genetics.* Such tools as family histories can help individuals and families glean objective information on their risk assessments for such "killers" as heart disease, cancer, diabetes. To be forewarned is to be forearmed. In 2007 NCHPEG focused on pharmacogenetics which holds promise for individually tailored medicines, drugs, and preventive programs. The time may be near when each of us will have our entire genome on a card the size of a credit card to take into the doctor's office or the hospital. Our family history, called our pedigree, may have a similar card of its own (maybe even integrated into our genome card. Just as chaplains help persons with end-of-life issues (a durable power of attorney for healthcare, for example), chaplains could be counseling persons with the spiritual/ethical issues that can arise from this genetic information.
5. *Keep updated and open-minded on future growth and/or development in genetics.*

Modern science and technology keeps moving at a rapid pace. My own file of genetic-related articles stands close to a foot in

height. I try to read as much as possible to keep abreast since genetics will play a role in future healthcare and in other areas of our lives (see below). Yes, the ethical issues will always be there. But an open mind and careful study should accompany new ideas and developments as we evaluate their ethical and spiritual implications. Be ready for some surprises!

Check out NCHPEG's Website www.nchpeg.org for information and updates.

On a more personal note, I'm often surprised at how significant developments arise in unexpected ways. I cite two examples. Just as I wrote this report, I met with two dear friends who have started their own company which procures specimens routinely discarded as medical waste (e.g. amniotic fluid, foreskins discarded at circumcision) to do research in regenerative medicine. These methods bypass research on embryonic stem cells to advance scientific knowledge in regenerative medicine. On a totally different scale, researchers changed two genes in the virus called M13 and got it to do two things: first, to build a shell made out of a compound called iron phosphate, then attach it to a carbon nanotube to make a powerful and tiny electrode. The result: a more efficient and powerful lithium battery.

So from healthcare to batteries, genetics could play a significant role as the new millennium advances. Paradoxically it might show ways of transforming medical waste products into life-giving health resources. Or develop electrodes which might be transformed into cellular telephones and are more environmentally friendly than many current cell phones. From apparent waste or "useless" genes, technology might prove more pro-life than we think.

In the midst of this Lenten-Easter season, when death is transformed into life in so many ways, Christ's paschal mystery has more relevance to current ethical and spiritual issues than we might think. The spiritual implications of genetics is a case in point.

The 12th annual NCHPEG Conference will take place Sept. 23-24, 2009. Its theme is "Genetics Education for Health Professionals: What are the key messages? How do we deliver them?" Chaplains are certainly an integral part of any professional healthcare team, and continuing education in genetics is necessary to a chaplain's status as a healthcare professional. This meeting should prove beneficial to all chaplains. I close in noting that our colleagues in APC have also designated a liaison to NCHPEG and together NACC and APC can play a great role in enhancing awareness of the ethical and spiritual dimensions of genetics. Perhaps we will see a sequel to the panel (2004) which provided a range of spiritual/ethics issues in genetics to the attendees at the annual meeting.

Lastly, I express my thanks to Mr. Joseph McInerney, who retired recently as the executive director of NCHPEG. Besides being a very competent scientist, he became a good friend and he was appreciative and supportive of the NACC and APC joining NCHPEG. He was always open to my/our ideas and concerns and shared his wisdom and insights with me regarding the working relationship between religion and science. I will miss him. God go with you, Joe, and guide your future.

*Richard M. Leliaert, Special Representative,
NCHPEG*

Red Cross Spiritual Care Response Team

The Spiritual Care Response Team (SRT) a component of the national Critical Response Team (CRT, formerly the AIR Team) collaborated through the national American Red Cross (ARC) since 1999. NACC has been an active member of this team and collaborates with the Red Cross with our cognate partners including: Association of Professional Chaplains, National Association of Jewish Chaplains, Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, American Association of Pastoral Counselors, International Conference of Police Chaplains, Canadian Association of Pastoral Practice and Education, Federation of Fire Chaplains and the College of Pastoral Supervision and Psychotherapy.

Education & Training:

In 2008, "Disaster Spiritual Care: Practical Clergy Responses to Community, Regional and National Tragedy," (edited by Roberts & Ashley) a first-of-its-kind book, was written by colleagues in the field and across the country outlining many detailed aspects of responding to a disaster. The publication was launched at the APC conference in Pittsburgh, PA, during a gathering of disaster response organizations from across the country who gathered to collaborate on national efforts in disaster response.

NACC Indianapolis SRT Training - April 2008

The Spiritual Care Response Team (SRT) trained 22 board certified chaplains for the second year in a row. This training, at the NACC National Conference in Indianapolis, IN, included instructors from the FBI, NTSB and the National Red Cross Disaster Team.

Spiritual Care Summit, Orlando, FL, 2009

Over 70 board-certified chaplains are registered to attend the SRT training in Orlando as a pre-conference workshop Jan. 29-30. Seven NACC chaplains will participate with colleagues from all other professional chaplaincy organizations.

SRT Disaster Responses in 2009

Through the year there were a few significant events where members of the SRT were deployed to respond.

- ▼ **Two Separate Small Plane Crashes** - April - McCall, Idaho, & Cruso, NC, where local SRT members were deployed to the scene and to the hospitals where victims were brought following the accidents involving two small planes colliding in Idaho and a private plane crash in Cruso, NC.
- ▼ **Corporate Jet Crash** - July 31- Owatonna, MN, a small corporate jet crashed upon landing and three SRT members were deployed and supported families with a national memorial service in collaboration with the National Transportation Safety Board.
- ▼ **Forestry Helicopter Crash** - Aug. 1- the helicopter of a contractor working with the U.S. Forestry Service crashed at a remote site in the Shasta National Forest near Redding, CA, killing eight and critically injuring four others who were airlifted to UC-Davis Hospitals and Mercy Hospital in

Redding. All fatalities were firefighters primarily from southern Oregon, and the disaster was immensely complicated with no passenger manifest as those who boarded the helicopters were returning for respite and not by group or name. SRT members were on standby at local hospitals and in Oregon for support to families.

- ▼ **Charter Bus Crash** - Aug. 8 - in Sherman, TX, 65 miles north of Dallas, 14 Vietnamese Catholic pilgrims were killed and 41 injured when their charter bus crashed. Victims were taken to eight area hospitals.
 - ▼ **Hurricane Gustav, Baton Rouge, LA** - Aug. 31 - the second major hurricane of the 2008 Atlantic hurricane season. Gustav caused serious damage and at least 138 casualties in the U.S. and Caribbean. SRT members were pre-deployed to Baton Rouge, LA, in anticipation of the unprecedented evacuation of over 2 million people from southern Louisiana ahead of this category 4 hurricane. SRT Tim Serban led a team of 15 chaplains including NACC chaplains William Mich and Joan Horgan through this response and Hurricane Ike, which made landfall two weeks later.
 - ▼ **Hurricane Ike, Austin, TX** - Sept. 1 - was the third most destructive hurricane to ever make landfall in the United States and blamed for over 165 deaths. SRT members were deployed across the Gulf coast and into Houston and Austin area to support families impacted and those displaced after the loss of their homes. Hospitals and nursing homes were evacuated and special needs shelters were opened for both hurricane responses.
 - ▼ **Metrolink Rail Crash Kills 26 in Southern California** – September - A Friday evening commuter train crash killed 26 and injured 140 in Los Angeles County, and the Red Cross chapter there and in Ventura County had capacity to organize and support the response and collaborate with the NTSB and local government. SRT members in Los Angeles provided a response as victims arrived at their local hospitals.
- In 2009, we look forward to the Orlando Summit pre-conference training and continued collaboration with our cognate partners and the National American Red Cross in Washington, D.C. In the future NACC should consider membership in the National Volunteer Organizations Assisting In Disasters (NVOAD) as this is being sought by our cognate partners NAJC & APC in an effort to ensure that appropriate spiritual care is provided in the midst of all major disasters through the leadership and guidance of professional board-certified chaplains. For more information about the SRT and future programs, please contact Tim Serban, NACC's representative to the American Red Cross Spiritual Care Response Team. Email: Tim.Serban@Providence.org

*Tim Serban, Special Representative,
American Red Cross, SRT*



Winter, Kloman, Moter & Repp, S.C.
CPAs SUPPORTING YOUR SUCCESS

To the Board of Directors
National Association of Catholic Chaplains
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

We have reviewed the accompanying statements of financial position of the National Association of Catholic Chaplains (a nonprofit organization) as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. All information included in these financial statements is the representation of the management of the National Association of Catholic Chaplains.

A review consists principally of inquiries of Association personnel and analytical procedures applied to financial data. It is substantially less in scope than an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements taken as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Based on our reviews, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Winter, Kloman, Moter & Repp, S.C.

January 23, 2009

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CATHOLIC CHAPLAINS

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31, 2008 and 2007

	2008	2007
<u>ASSETS</u>		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 18,491	\$ 27,987
Investments	396,102	501,916
Interest receivable	1,180	2,277
Accounts receivable	5,186	6,292
Prepaid expenses	<u>30,809</u>	<u>28,884</u>
Total current assets	<u>451,768</u>	<u>567,356</u>
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, at cost		
Office furniture and equipment	79,021	75,729
Leasehold improvements	<u>2,354</u>	<u>2,354</u>
	81,375	78,083
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>69,008</u>	<u>70,037</u>
	<u>12,367</u>	<u>8,046</u>
OTHER ASSETS		
Security deposit	<u>4,600</u>	<u>4,600</u>
Total assets	<u>\$468,735</u>	<u>\$580,002</u>
<u>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</u>		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 9,001	\$ 6,918
Accrued payroll and benefits	67,462	33,690
Deferred revenues	<u>225,184</u>	<u>225,392</u>
Total current liabilities	<u>301,647</u>	<u>266,000</u>
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted		
Undesignated	35,949	212,784
Board designated	<u>114,241</u>	<u>84,618</u>
	150,190	297,402
Temporarily restricted	<u>16,898</u>	<u>16,600</u>
Total net assets	<u>167,088</u>	<u>314,002</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$468,735</u>	<u>\$580,002</u>

See Accountant's review report.

The Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CATHOLIC CHAPLAINS
STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES
For the Years Ended December 31, 2008 and 2007

	2008	2007	
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
REVENUES			
Membership dues	\$ 552,197	\$ 0	\$ 552,197
Certification fees	62,914	0	62,914
Annual appeal	32,670	0	32,670
Contributions	2,250	1,898	4,148
National conference	199,325	0	199,325
Educational events	12,885	0	12,885
Investment income (loss), net	(100,767)	0	(100,767)
Miscellaneous income	49,611	0	49,611
Net assets released from restrictions:			
Restricted funds utilized	<u>1,600</u>	<u>(1,600)</u>	<u>0</u>
Total revenues	<u>812,685</u>	<u>298</u>	<u>812,983</u>
	\$ 540,778	\$ 0	\$ 540,778
	75,486	0	75,486
	28,169	0	28,169
	300	0	300
	121,062	0	121,062
	1,560	0	1,560
	24,451	600	25,051
	63,549	0	63,549
	<u>2,740</u>	<u>(2,740)</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>858,095</u>	<u>(2,140)</u>	<u>855,955</u>
	475,082	0	475,082
	7,160	0	7,160
	10,320	0	10,320
	22,260	0	22,260
	55,313	0	55,313
	9,588	0	9,588
	13,648	0	13,648
	45,701	0	45,701
	12,182	0	12,182
	8,319	0	8,319
	16	0	16
	3,446	0	3,446
	<u>663,035</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>663,035</u>
	20,619	0	20,619
	160	0	160
	4,158	0	4,158
	2,367	0	2,367
	3,667	0	3,667
	1,726	0	1,726
	114	0	114
	256	0	256
	329	0	329
	1,188	0	1,188
	<u>34,584</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>34,584</u>
	29,349	0	29,349
	153	0	153
	28,217	0	28,217
	1,643	0	1,643
	6,684	0	6,684
	52	0	52
	90	0	90
	0	0	0
	562	0	562
	1,830	0	1,830
	<u>68,580</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>68,580</u>
	475,082	0	475,082
	7,160	0	7,160
	10,320	0	10,320
	22,260	0	22,260
	55,313	0	55,313
	9,588	0	9,588
	13,648	0	13,648
	45,701	0	45,701
	12,182	0	12,182
	8,319	0	8,319
	16	0	16
	3,446	0	3,446
	<u>663,035</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>663,035</u>
	20,619	0	20,619
	160	0	160
	4,158	0	4,158
	2,367	0	2,367
	3,667	0	3,667
	1,726	0	1,726
	114	0	114
	256	0	256
	329	0	329
	1,188	0	1,188
	<u>34,584</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>34,584</u>
	29,349	0	29,349
	153	0	153
	28,217	0	28,217
	1,643	0	1,643
	6,684	0	6,684
	52	0	52
	90	0	90
	0	0	0
	562	0	562
	1,830	0	1,830
	<u>68,580</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>68,580</u>

See Accountant's review report.
The Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CATHOLIC CHAPLAINS

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)
For the Years Ended December 31, 2008 and 2007

	-----2008-----		-----2007-----	
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted
	Total	Total	Total	Total
EXPENSES (continued)				
Certification:				
Certification commission	\$ 20,057	\$ 0	\$ 22,105	\$ 0
Certification ITEs & site coordinators	13,935	0	15,247	0
Certification interviews	24,323	0	42,440	0
Certification appeals panel	45	45	59	59
	<u>58,360</u>	<u>58,360</u>	<u>79,851</u>	<u>79,851</u>
Strategic planning	0	0	33,153	0
Annual appeal	3,047	0	2,609	0
National conference	154,361	0	121,020	0
Educational events	8,487	0	1,214	0
Total operating expenses	<u>959,897</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>969,462</u>	<u>0</u>
Change in net assets	(147,212)	298	(111,367)	(2,140)
NET ASSETS				
Beginning of year	<u>297,402</u>	<u>16,600</u>	<u>408,769</u>	<u>18,740</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 150,190</u>	<u>\$ 16,898</u>	<u>\$ 297,402</u>	<u>\$ 16,600</u>
				<u>\$ 3,14,002</u>

See Accountant's review report.
The Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.