



**NCPI Advisory Council Conference Call**  
**January 15, 2008**  
**4 –5 PM**  
**Dial-in number: 1-888-447-7153**  
**Participant Code: 6419469#**

**AGENDA**

**I. Introductions**

**Attending:** Beverly Nicholson, May Sung, Marcia Grant, Judy Citko, Anne Goure, Penney Cowan, Kathe Kelly, Kathy Keller, Scott Fishman (guest), Annie Borgenicht, Stephen Rickards, Glenn Yokoyama.

**Regrets:** Vicky Ferraresi, Lori Reisner, Ben Rich, Judy Nurse, Mark Blum, Donna Kalauokalani, Alecia Sanchez

- Moment of reflection for Bill Marcus - Beverly opened the call with her thoughts on Bill's outstanding contribution to NCPI and the status of pain policy and ultimately pain care. She reflected on his Pain Champion Award from ASPI and the impact of his work on behalf of persons in pain. Others were invited to share their thoughts.
- Glenn was on Board of Pharmacy when Bill was the Board's counsel and noted Bill was very effective over 20 years' time in getting pain recognized, helping patients receive better care by constantly trying to make triplicates less of a barrier. He was a champion of doing things the right way, on the side of patients. Scott worked with Bill for years. There is legal and regulatory program being planned in his name involving Dave Joranson, Jennifer Bolan and Ben Rich, possibly sponsored by Alpharma. Scott Fishman reports that AAPM will give Bill a Presidential Commendation at their annual meeting in February.

Kathy Keller reports that a scholarship fund has been established at UCSD Skaggs School of Pharmacy in Bill's name.

Annie Borgenicht notes concern that Bill's legislative analysis and plans for improvement will be difficult to continue. May reports that Anne Goure from ACS Government Affairs will check with Alecia Sanchez to see what progress can be made since Alecia met with Bill and received extensive information from him.

**II. Review of Meeting Notes – defer to New Business**

**III. Standing Agenda Items**

- SCCPI Liaison Report - Kathe Kelly

Will be holding their Board retreat at Hoag Hospital on Jan 29<sup>th</sup>. Will want to discuss areas where SCCPI and NCPI can collaborate (including a CA statewide Pain Summit – see below).

Their educational activities will include the PRN course in September, Promoting Excellence in Palliative Care for Social Workers in August at the Westin; Women in Pain Conference – Gender Matters in May at City of Hope and their Gala in November. Pain Management pocket reference card has been updated for 2008 and is now available. Kathe will send May an update.

- ❑ Upcoming Conferences/Educational Opportunities
- ❑ Power Over Pain - Action Network Progress Report - Annie Borgenicht  
Not much to report. Still struggling with networking. Wanting to connect with some chronic pain support groups. Was unable to attend a POP conference that was held in November. Others have been meeting with their representatives. Bev asks if the APF has the ability to send out any information to folks in CA to connect with her. Annie thinks this is a great idea but is not sure how to accomplish this.
- ❑ Web Site - Vicky Ferraresi could not be on the call. May reports items continue to be updated. Chuck continues to be the webmaster. Should be updating this month.

#### **IV. Old Business**

- ❑ Capps/Rogers National Pain Care Policy Act – Updates – meeting with Rep. Capps
- ❑ There was a plan to meet with Representative Capps which Bev and May had planned to attend, but never received the confirmation.

Scott Fishman met with Rep. Capps who initially was quite pessimistic about the bill. Says it was weak on drug abuse. After extensive discussion she now expressed her understanding that it is the start of the solution for undertreated pain and drug abuse prevention. Scott showed her that his book advocates for quality pain control and is endorsed by the DEA. She wants to get copies into the hands of all the representatives. She was impressed with the broad endorsement of APF (80,000 patients) and ACS, among other supporters. She was encouraged that a grassroots effort is active in the background.

She spoke about Coleman's model for healthcare (Norm Coleman, US Senator, Minnesota). Scott asked her to speak with Frank Pellone, Chair of the Health Sub Committee. She agreed to come to UC Davis to see what pain medicine is and how patients suffer. Action item is to get materials together to reinforce the importance of passing the National Pain Care Policy Act. AAPM also plans to give Presidential Commendations to Rep Capps and Mike Rogers for their leadership on this bill.

Kathe Kelly wrote a letter to Capps in support of the bill and asked that SCCPI do the same.

Scott says that other constituents need to put in calls and letters to their congresspersons to ask them to support the bill. Penney also asks what NCPI can do collectively or as individuals to help. Reports attending legislative day in Washington DC to speak with congressional representatives.

Capps emphasizes that there are so many priority bills right now

- Distribution of Physician's Guide on Opioid Prescribing – NCPI Role?

National Govt Relations department at ACS wants to know what we can do to help with distribution. Scott left the call before giving an update on the status of foundations grants he was seeking.

## V. New Business

- Review/editing of Strategic Plan/ Flip Chart Notes from Face to Face Meeting

Beverly went through the new strategic plan, updated at the face to face meeting.

Beginning with a SWOT analysis of NCPI:

Strengths – location, near legislators, part of ACS gives national recognition, good people, lots of ideas, early successes with addressing timely issues, operational funds from ACS, got a grant for cancer pain guidelines CE program.

Weaknesses – need to focus on our mission statement, keep it front and center, Struggling to get participation – all are busy, need more people, May and her staff stretch themselves, ACS association may put us into cancer pain mode and could slow us down due to going through approval processes to respect ACS' needs. Strategic plan fairly broad, formulary issues limit access to care for our patients, Finances always a concern. Visibility limited.

Opportunities – association with SCCPI, can give value added

Threats – loss of time, advisory board members spread too thin and loss of focus.

Unique contribution – what is it? Had been looking at regulatory issues, do we have a unique role in changing attitudes, lobby NCAA to add a pain indicator?

Need to promote education. Look at Health Notes – already written but languishing at Board of Pharmacy due to lack of funding and manpower to publish and distribute (see below). Town hall meetings with legislators? Need to narrow our focus.

Beverly suggested several edits to the strategic plan.

Move items 4 and 5 from Priority Item #2 into item 1 of Priority #1 as all concern legislative activities. Also, will need to tap expertise of Alecia Sanchez and Anne Goure from ACS Government Affairs Department to assist. Bill Marcus was instrumental in the accomplishments such as passage of AB2198 which helped California go from an “C” to a “B” grade on the WPPSG evaluation.

Beverly asked for clarification about Health Notes, which Bill brought up at the face to face meeting. Kathy Keller clarified that this had been an effective

professional educational program through the CA board of pharmacy. Last iteration has languished. Many good articles but lack of funds and ongoing support through the Board of pharmacy, also personnel changes at boards of nursing and medicine.

There was a discussion about NCPI website posting of ACS educational activities that relate to pain – including Doc Talks and I Can Cope. While not wanting to unfairly consume NCPI website attention for these, Stephen Rickards noted how participation in the teleconferenced community forums typically results in attention of large professional audiences seeking to raise their practice skill set, so will draw attention to NCPI while helping meet its goal. Kathy Keller also noted that NCPI participation in these educational activities may also help to identify grassroots activist to participate in the other programs, particularly legislative action. Stephen suggest looking at the ACS training website: [www.ACSmissiontraining.org](http://www.ACSmissiontraining.org)

Beverly asks that Kathe Kelly bring this, and the issue of the Pain Summit, planned for 2009, to the SCCPI board at their retreat as activities for collaboration.

- New Chairperson for Policy and Regulatory Affairs Committee

Tabled to next meeting due to time.

## **VI. Announcements – Open Agenda**

**Next Conference Call: February 19, 2008**