

AARC House of Delegates Winter 2022 Report

The HOD Winter 22 meeting was held in-person in **New Orleans, LA November 7-8, 2022**. CTSRC was represented by two elected delegates, **Joan Kreiger and Kimberly Chambers**. 49 state affiliates were in attendance: Rhode Island was absent.

The Policy and Guide Committee presented several motions that were carried: approval of the revised Policy and Guide Manual and Historical Handbook; updates to the language regarding filling vacancy of Immediate Past Speaker to fulfill the duties of that role without holding the title; Proposed revision to E-Vote Process narrative (P&G manual p. 43) to align with use of electronic voting for HOD business and elections; and Proposed revision to HD014 Student Mentorship and Scholarship policy to remove \$ amounts so policy doesn't need revisions if future adjustments are made. Editorial changes to reflect support for both HOD meetings.

Resolutions Committee presented one resolution (CTSRC, having already discussed this at the October 2022 meeting, voted in favor of the resolution). Resolved that the AARC Board of Directors and Executive Office collaborate with the State Affiliate Charters and the House of Delegates to develop an Early Professional Leadership Council that is given voice and input on the direction that the AARC is going for the future. Several students in attendance shared their support of the resolution.

The Resolutions Committee reminded all in attendance that the resolutions process is one that is afforded to all, to help change and mold the organization.

The Delegate Assistance Committee proposed two updates to the Delegate Assistance process: the specification that funding would cover a maximum of 3 nights of hotel expense for HOD meetings; and that affiliates that received funding would be required to attend the delegates meeting or must reimburse the AARC.

The Chartered Affiliates Committee presented an instructional video on how to complete the Affiliate Reporting form and suggested earlier notifications to affiliates so as to not interfere with the busy tax season.

During the **Open Mic** sessions, donations were collected for all of the funds, including a spontaneous cash donation collection to send the family of Bill Lamb to the 2023 Award Ceremony to witness the first distribution of the endowed fund.

Delegates engaged in a discussion about the **revenue sharing and marketing agreements** and asked questions about terminology and compliance. The change is that it specifically lists that affiliates need to promote Summer Forum & Congress and demonstrate proof; this will be completed quarterly and submitted to AARC via a JotForm. Delegates requested that emails to state presidents also copy the delegates. Toolkits will be distributed in mid-January to help affiliates with their promotion of AARC. CTSRC inquired if daily registrations could be counted

toward discount code for revenue sharing. The executive office took note and will follow up in 2023. Some affiliates continue to struggle with getting members to register with the discount code.

JOINT SESSION:

Daedalus: Dean Hess presented on the RC Journal (completely converted to digital December 2022). The online journal is accessed worldwide to improve patient care. There had been an increase in submissions but decrease in acceptance. He shared that a feasibility study is underway to determine the need/desire for a second journal which has the potential to affect the strategic plan by growing membership and facilitating more publication opportunities for Respiratory Therapists.

Clinical Practice Guidelines: there are 3 CPG in the works: ventilator/patient assessment; spontaneous breathing trials; and oxygen transition from hospital to home. Various workgroups are in the process of doing literature searches, systematic reviews, and creating research questions to support the creation of new CPGs for 2023. Further, the CPG committee plans to create a handbook with dates for updates.

Position Statements: approved: RRT Entry to Licensure & Administration of Sedative and Analgesic Medications for Procedural Sedation by Respiratory Therapists

APEX Award recommendation changes were to extend the deadline, which they have done and they are also looking at some revision of the qualifications but these are still pending final recommendation

Government Affairs: updates on CMS reimbursements as well as the launch of the Pulmonary Rehabilitation Toolkit. Virtual Visitation for Pulmonary Rehab extended Through January 11, 2023. The AARC continues to participate with the very active Alliance for Connected Care. Prevent Act Package successfully passed the House of Representatives and is now stalled in the Senate as part of a larger healthcare package S.3799 called "PREVENT". The PREVENT ACT includes the language from the Allied Health Workforce Diversity Act, which would increase educational opportunities for respiratory therapists and the other allied health professions for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds or who are underrepresented in the profession. Frank Salvatore has resigned from PACT Michael Madison will take over.

Executive Office: reported on updates in staffing and the strategic plan. The new director of education is a respiratory therapist who attended the HOD meeting as a student. AARC has 17 Corporate Partners for 2023 (up from 15 in 2022). A new Membership Advisory Committee was created to help reach the strategic goal of increasing membership by 20% and achieve 85% retention rate by 2025. Currently membership is down, and retention rate is <70%.

Information and Technology: IT strategic Plan- developed a strategic plan laying out the technology architecture and tools required to achieve AARC's strategic goals.

Firewall- implemented new firewall security policies and procedures required to fend off ongoing cyberattacks against the AARC.

Online Join and Renewal Process customization – developing program customizations that allow members to "reinstate" or "reactivate" their membership if they have a Terminated/Past Renewal Billing record within two years of the system date without issue or intervention

Marketing/Communications plans several new initiatives including one targeted to C-suite level hospital executives. Other initiatives aimed at increasing engagement through AARConnect and other high visibility contact points.

The AARC **Elections Committee** reported on the results of the 10/4/22 elections. The HOD **Elections Committee** reported on the following officers: Speaker-Elect: Steve Zachowski; Treasurer: Jim Lahona; Secretary De De Gardner; Bylaws chair-elect: Joan Kreiger.

The AARC **Budget** was presented and voted on.

NBRC has acquired the Certified Asthma Educator Examination Program (AE-C) from the NAECB. This presents an opportunity for the NBRC to add another specialty program to our bank of exams without having to build it from the ground up. Checks for NBRC'S funding over 2 million dollars by giving \$5,000 to each CoARC accredited Respiratory Care are planned for December distribution.

CoARC is updating Entry to Practice Standards. Advanced Practice RT changes from 2015 The Ohio State Program is the only program using it Degree advancement Programs.

BEST PRACTICE PRESENTATION

Pennsylvania shared a best practice on the LARS Pilot. LARS, EBP, Education and Leadership Academy. Presentation is available on AARC Connect.

BOD: Resolve that the AARC House of Delegates consider endorsing and supporting the development of RT Leadership groups and activities within each affiliate to strengthen professional growth and communication among RT leaders at the grassroots level of our profession.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Kreiger, EdD, RRT, RPFT
Kimberly Chambers, BSRT, RRT