



Newsletter to BCC supporters

June 2010

Master Propio en Quiropráctica

On the 20th of May the Barcelona College of Chiropractic (BCC) had its most recent meeting with representatives of the University Pompeu Fabra (UPF) to further discuss and hopefully further develop the agreements that already exist between the two institutions.

The agenda for the meeting was:

- To explore the award that the UPF will offer BCC students on completion of the five years full-time programme of study

We are very pleased to be able to report to you that after carefully reviewing the legal status and quality of the programme of study being developed by the BCC, the UPF/idEC's representatives believe they will be able to offer BCC students a "Master propio" award so that upon satisfactorily completing the five years long programme of study, BCC graduates will be awarded a double award: "Título Superior en Quiropráctica (BCC)" and a "Master Propio en Quiropráctica (UPF)".

The BCC will now continue work on further developing the details of the last year of the programme of study along with its External Academic Experts and representatives from the UPF. Therefore, despite the fact that the final details are not yet signed and sealed, the relationship between the two institutions has moved to the next level, which is reflected in the agreement by both parties to enter into a period of close collaboration in co-developing the final year of the programme of study.

Importantly, it has been agreed that the entry requirements for the Master programme will include the satisfactory completion of the first four years of the BCC's programme of study so that applicants who might want to access the Master from outside the BCC's programme of study, will not be able to.

To now have one of Spain's best public universities expressing the willingness, and reporting the ability, to award a Master to our graduates is fantastic news for the BCC, it's students and chiropractic in Spain.

AEQ VOTE SHOWS STRONG SUPPORT FOR BCC

In Spain there is one national chiropractic association, the AEQ (www.quiropractica-aeq.com). On the 17th of April 2010, at an AEQ General Assembly in San Sebastian (Spain), the AEQ's members voted to endorse the signing of an agreement between the Fundación Privada Quiropráctica (FPQ)* and the Asociación Española de Quiropráctica (AEQ).

The vote was preceded by brief presentations to the General Assembly by the Barcelona College of Chiropractic's principal, Dr. Adrian Wenban, and a representative of the BCC's academic consultants, Silvia Ranz. Also on hand to answer questions were the BCC's Manager, Marc Pastor, and the FPQ/BCC's legal advisor, Juan Jove.

Although the BCC already had the general support of the AEQ, by way of a vote, which took place back in 2007, and by way of an AEQ donation of 15,000 Euros earmarked for the purchase of books, the relationship between the two organizations needed to be formalized through the signing of a written agreement. The agreement provides for the establishment of regular meetings between 2 representative from the AEQ and 2 representatives from the BCC wherein the AEQ will be formally updated and have the opportunity to make recommendations.

The results of the vote show an enormous level of support for the BCC from within the AEQ.

(* The FPQ is the government registered, non-profit foundation that oversees the governance and management of the BCC).

NEW STUDENTS

The BCC is very happy to inform you that the first 45 applications, from potential students for the 2010-11 intake, have already been received by the BCC's Admission office. The BCC now has a growing marketing and recruiting team who are working hard, at both a national and international level, to increase this number during the coming months. We would like to thank all those members of the marketing and recruiting team who have assisted to date. If you would like to become a member of either of those teams, please contact Garry Carless globalchiropractic@yahoo.es or Mercedes Fernandez mercedes.fernandez@bcchiropractic.es

FIRST YEAR EXAMS

As semester I came to a close, in February of 2010, the BCC's students underwent their first major period of assessment. As part of its quality assurance policies, the BCC puts much time, energy and expertise into ensuring that all assessment procedures conform to what are widely

acknowledged to be best assessment practices. For example, all exams for the 2009/2010 academic year were set at the beginning of the course, in September 2009. As part of that exam setting process all exams are peer-reviewed and reviewed by the external examiners (Prof. Bernard Moxham and Prof. Christopher Good, both of whom were introduced in our last newsletter). The objective of this exam setting/review process is to ensure that all exams are set at the correct level and that each exam appropriately assesses the related modules stated learning outcomes.

During the exam and subsequent marking process, anonymity of students was preserved. After exams have been marked by the module's teacher, a process of moderated marking takes place wherein a second teacher marks all exams in order to ensure integrity and reliability of the marking procedures.

SEMESTER I EXAM RESULTS

Following the exam period, a meeting of the Interim Exam Board took place with the objective of reviewing the results. The BCC is very happy to announce that overall students' performance was very good. The average mark was over 60% in all modules.

Congratulations to the students for their work and to the teachers for their efforts to conform to the BCC's quality assurance policies whilst managing to prepare and deliver classes, assessment and feedback in a timely manner during the first semester!

STUDENT INPUT, FEEDBACK AND SATISFACTION

Questionnaires, designed to assess student satisfaction with a number of aspects of the BCC's resources, personal and services, were distributed to, and collected from, students at the end of Semester I and half way through semester II. Parameters assessed included, teaching, travel, facilities, virtual learning environment, admissions procedure, language translation facilities and administrative services. The results from both surveys indicated a reasonable level of satisfaction amongst students such that all the assessed parameters were ranked between good and very good. Also, the second meeting of the *Student/Staff Liaison Committee* of the year took place in April. Five student representatives and 5 members of the BCC Administrative staff met to discuss issues deemed important by the students. In this way it is hoped students have a voice in matters that affect their academic life. The 2 official student representatives of the BCC class of 2009 are Richelle Gardner and Matan Steiman. Thank you to both Matan and Richelle for their time and willingness to represent the other students throughout this first year.

SEMINARS

The BCC was recently represented at the Chiro Europe Seminar in Malaga (Spain). The organizers of the seminar kindly donated all proceeds from the seminar to the BCC. Keynote speakers included Dr. Guy Riekeman, Dr. Brian Kelly, Dr. Chuck Ribley, Dr. Lou Corletto, Dr. John-Paul Pianta, Dr. Marc Hudson, and Dr. Peter Amlinger. Dr. Amlinger, who has been a strong supporter of the BCC since its inception, practices in Ontario, Canada and was voted Canadian Chiropractor magazine's 2006 Independent Chiropractor of the Year. Additionally, Peter is presently chair of the Executive committee of the College of Chiropractors of Ontario.



Dr. Peter Amlinger

(http://www.canadianchiropractor.ca/index.php?option=com_annexeditor&task=showissue&issueid=53&Itemid=170). The BCC Administrative team would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who presented at the Malaga event and in particular we would like to acknowledge Dr. Amlinger for his ongoing support for the BCC.

In June representatives of the BCC will attend, and have a stand at, the Parker Seminar in Rome (Italy). At the end of May (29th), Dr. Adrian Wenban and Dr. Garry Carless, along with two BCC students, presented an orientation to the BCC for potential students in Milan (Italy). Also during May (13-15th), the BCC was represented with a stand at the ECU convention in London (UK) and in July (9-11th) the BCC will be represented at a seminar in Edinburgh, called the Edinburgh Lectures, which will feature Dr. Brian Kelly and Dr. Bruce Lipton amongst others.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR OF THE EUROPEAN NEUROLOGY JOURNAL

On the 7th of April 2010 a letter from the Principal of the BCC, Dr. Adrian Wenban, addressed to the Editor of the European Neurology Journal, was published. The letter refers to a literature review, carried out by authors from Italy (Paciaroni and Bogousslavsky), about the adverse effects of neck manipulation. Dr. Wenban raises the point that even though the authors refer to chiropractors, osteopaths, physiotherapists and physicians, their review's search strategy considers only chiropractors. The authors of the literature review, in responding to Dr. Wenban's letter, acknowledge their error.

Again we the BCC Administrative team would like to thank you for your ongoing support. We wish you all the best until our next communication,

The BCC Administrative Team –

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