

Professional Development Committee Report - Montreal June 6, 2006

Committee Chair - Pina Zervas

Member - Kim MacIsaac

Member - Phil Boswell

The goals of the professional development committee are to promote professional development for individuals' practicing and/or proceeding with the CVE or RVP designation as well as conference development and coordination.

A meeting was held with Susan Cran (University of Calgary - Community Rehabilitation and Disability Studies) in June. The reason for the meeting was to better understand and coordinate course offerings between CAVEWAS and U of C. The following courses are currently available and would satisfy some of the core competencies required to write the CVE examination.

1. Vocational Evaluation Theory and Practice
2. Career Development, Disability and Occupational Information.

Kim MacIsaac has submitted a course description to U of C for an online Vocational Theory course. The U of C is very interested and we hope to offer the course in the fall. CAVEWAS is also currently working with the U of C to develop/offer an Implications of Disability course.

In the fall, Pina Zervas organized a course Vocational Evaluation Theory & Strategies for Vocational Rehabilitation Professionals which was instructed by Cameron Adams-Webber. Twenty students enrolled in the course.

The new website will be a wonderful resource and conduit towards the professional development of CAVEWAS members. We received permission to post Lynn Dowd's Glossary of Terminology for Vocational Assessment, Evaluation and Work Adjustment on the site. Go to the resources page and scroll down to the bottom to take a look (www.cavewas.com/resources.html). In the same place under the Education heading is a link to a list of credit based courses in vocational assessment, evaluation and rehabilitation available to non-degree seeking students. For upcoming professional development opportunities, members can also check out the home page under News and Events heading.

For those with the new RVP designation—congratulations and be aware that the maintenance of the designation requires 50 hours of continuing education every five years. Watch the website for opportunities to obtain CE credits.

At the CAVEWAS pre-conference in Charlottetown last year, Dr. Michelle Hamilton from the University of Wisconsin-Stout received rave reviews. She spoke about the effective use of assessment interviews as a diagnostic tool. The committee is pleased to announce that Dr. Hamilton agreed to return to Montreal for the 2006 CAVEWAS pre-conference. This year's topic is: Vocational Assessment and Evaluation. A Primer for Rehabilitation Professionals: What to Expect and How to Maximize Your Referral.

Respectfully submitted,

P. W. Boswell