

PASSED: AC-4-13: Motion regarding Proliferation of New Programs and Expansion Programs – Rick Segal

V2: Substitution for original AC 4-13 adopted as amended:

Request to defer this motion and refer this topic to the ACAPT Board of Directors to work with the new Partners in PT Education to communicate and address the seriousness of this action and to have the ACAPT Board of Directors prepare a position to take to 2014 APTA House of Delegates for discussion and action related to these issues.

Original Motion:

That the Council urges CAPTE to cease accreditation of new physical therapist education programs (and approval of expansion programs) until a joint task force of Council members and CAPTE commissioners can develop a comprehensive set of criteria that will establish the resources, both human and physical, that need to be in place prior to Candidacy being granted.

SS:

Proliferation of new programs is accelerating. In addition, existing institutions are establishing what are effectively new programs, but are able to avoid the standard candidacy and accreditation process because these are classified as "expansion programs". There is no evidence that CAPTE is capable of regulating the proliferation of these new programs, apparently because the accreditation regulations are written too broadly and vaguely.

The entire enterprise of physical therapy education is at risk, because the quality of many of these programs is embarrassingly poor. Our already small pool of faculty and program directors is being spread even more thinly. Sites for clinical education are also in short supply.