

Tuesday, 6 June 2006

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BY: M14

Submission No. 51a  
Date Received 14-6-05

Committee Secretary  
Joint Standing Committee on Migration  
Department of House of Representatives  
PO Box 6021  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sir/Madam

**Re: JSCM Request for Further Information**

The Council on Chiropractic Education Australasia (CCEA) would like to thank you for the opportunity to have presented information to you during your Brisbane meeting IN October 2005. We trust that the information presented to you at that meeting provided adequate assistance and clarification to the matters raised.

While Council has not received any formal communication in relation to the outcome of the above presentation, we note from our Executive Officer's report that it was requested that Council further consider the issue of bridging programs. Specifically, it was requested that Council consider the possible establishment of bridging programs.

The issue of bridging programs was considered at our Council meeting in April 2006. The discussion included representatives from the educational institutions and from the Australian regulatory (registration) authorities.

After very careful consideration, Council resolved:

- that the establishment of bridging programs for those who would not meet the threshold for assessment would be extremely difficult and cost prohibitive given the vast number of areas required to develop such programs; and the immense scope of chiropractic practice
- that applicants who do not meet the assessment threshold be eligible to enrol in an Australian university chiropractic program where recognition of prior learning would be taken into account. This would be necessary to ensure that graduates be safe and competent.
- for applicants who are unsuccessful in passing the CCEA competency assessment, the Council believes that up-skilling may be beneficial.

- for applicants who are unsuccessful in passing the CCEA competency assessments, up-skilling would be provided via enrolment in relevant areas/units at current Australian university programs.

Council believes that the above determinations are practical, considerate and sensible for all concerned parties. We hope that the Joint Standing Committee on Migration also sees the merit of our determinations.

A second issue expressed in our Executive Officer's report was the request to consider also establishing the CCEA's competency assessment "off-shore". Council is currently exploring this concept and has begun correspondence with overseas groups to determine its possibility of this occurring off-shore.

If Council can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact Mrs Debby Ramsay, our Executive Officer on 07 5467 9736.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dr Phillip Donato". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D" and "P".

Dr Phillip Donato  
C H A I R M A N