

Memo

To: ACMG, ASHG, ABGC, AGCPD, APHMG, NACHGR, CAGC, Genetic Alliance, FORCE, ISONG

From: Elizabeth Kearney, 2010 President

Date: May 5, 2010

Re: NSGC Activity Update

Following are key highlights of NSGC strategic initiatives and other key activities through December 31, 2009. If you have questions about information not included in this report, please do not hesitate to contact me at 510-708-9805 or lizkearneygenetics@gmail.com.

NSGC Membership

- As of March 31, 2009 NSGC had 2,181 members in all categories that had renewed for 2010. Of these, are 1,887 practicing genetic counselors. Membership renewal for 2010 is ongoing.

Board of Directors

- The NSGC Board of Directors met February 19-20, 2010 in Chicago, IL. During this meeting the Board conducted business and initiated work on a new vision statement. that was released on April 23, 2010.
- NSGC's new logo was released in March 2010. Additional information regarding the logo development process is available at <http://www.nsgc.org/LogoLaunch.cfm>
- NSGC's new vision statement, "Integrating genetics and genomics to improve health for all," was released on April 23, 2010.
- The 2010-2012 NSGC Strategic Plan was approved in June 2009 and is available at <http://www.nsgc.org/about/strategicPlan.cfm>

Education

- NSGC is approved as a provider of CEUs for genetic counselors by the International Association of Continuing Education and Training (IACET). Application information is available at <http://www.nsgc.org/CEU/index.cfm>. Please contact Meg Orsi at morsi@nsgc.org with any questions.
- NSGC's 2010 online course is under development. This course will be released in July 2010. Additional information will be available on the NSGC website as speakers and content is finalized.
- The NSGC Access and Service Delivery Committee launched an online Coding Course in September 2009. This course was specifically designed to be an educational tool for the complexities of compliant billing and coding of genetic services. More information is available at <http://www.nsgc.org/conferences/CodingCourse2009.cfm> A follow up course for 2010 is under development

- The 2009 AEC was held in Atlanta, Georgia, November 12-15, 2009 and provided a broad spectrum of educational content covering advances in genetics and genomics and various areas of genetic counseling specialization. New in 2009, the AEC included a day of preconference symposia allowing for in-depth coverage of specific topics.
- The 2010 AEC is scheduled for October 14-17, 2010 in Dallas, Texas.

Liaison Activities

- NSGC 2010 President Liz Kearney, President Elect Karin Dent and Past President Steven Keiles attended the ACMG Annual Meeting held March 24-28, 2009 in Albuquerque, NM.
- NSGC President Liz Kearney presented to the ACMG Board of Directors and discussed areas of collaboration between NSGC and ACMG at their March 2010 meeting in Albuquerque, NM.
- NSGC liaison Deb Doyle and future liaison Leslie Cohen attended the AMA CPT Editorial Panel Meeting in February 2010 in Orlando, FL.
- Liaison Rhonda Schonberg represented NSGC at the National Advisory Council for Human Genome Research (NACHGR) meeting held in February 2010 in Washington DC and provided NACHGR members with a summary of NSGC activities.
- NSGC was represented on the Institute of Medicine Roundtable on Translating Genomic-Based Research for Health by past President, Cathy Wicklund. NSGC President Liz Kearney accompanied Cathy at the March 2010 meeting in Anaheim, CA.
- Lori Williamson represented NSGC at a summit, held in February 2010 in Atlanta, GA to develop NBS Connect, an interactive, clinician-supported patient registry. Following the summit, NSGC was asked to continue as a partner and advisor to the project.
- Michelle Fox has been appointed to represent NSGC on the HRSA Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children Subcommittee on Follow up and Treatment.
- Barbara Bernhardt is going to serve as the NSGC liaison to the "value of genetic diagnosis" committee led by Marc Williams from ACMG. The committee will focus on evidence-based medicine and contribute overall to the promotion of genetics professions and genetic services.
- Lori Williamson has been nominated to represent NSGC on HRSA Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children Health Information Technology Workgroup.
- NSGC President Angela Trepanier was elected to the NCHPEG Board of Directors for a three-year term beginning in 2009. She serves as the NSGC representative to NCHPEG and is representing NSGC at all NSGC Board meetings in 2010.

Government Relations and Advocacy

- NSGC has provided ongoing guidance to states pursuing licensure and writing licensure rules and regulations.
 - Issuing licenses: IL, MA, NM, OK, TN, UT
 - Passed bills/in rulemaking: CA, HI, IN, NJ, SD, WA
 - Bill introduced, held hearings: NY, PA, TX,

- NSGC released a position statement on gene patenting in March 2010. This statement is available at <http://www.nsgc.org/about/position.cfm#HGP>
- The NSGC Public Policy Committee continues to maintain a blog, providing information on various policy issues. The blog may be viewed at <http://nsgcpolicy.blogspot.com/>