

Memo

To: NSGC Liaison Organizations
From: Jennifer Hoskovec, 2014 President
Date: August 19, 2013
Re: National Society of Genetic Counselors Activity Update

Following are key highlights of National Society of Genetic Counselors (NSGC) strategic initiatives and other key activities through mid-January 2014. If you have questions about information not included in this report, please do not hesitate to contact me at 713-500-6383 or jennifer.e.malone@uth.tmc.edu.

NSGC Membership

- As of December 31, 2013 NSGC had 2,965 members.

Board of Directors

- The NSGC Board of Directors meets monthly by phone and met in-person October 8, 2013 in Anaheim, CA.
- The next in-person Board meeting is scheduled for March 14-15 in Chicago, Illinois.

Education

- NSGC is approved as a provider of CEUs for genetic counselors. Application information is available on the [NSGC website](#). Please contact [Elizabeth Allen](#), NSGC Continuing Education Coordinator, with any questions.
- The 2013 AEC is scheduled for October 9-12, 2013 in Anaheim, California. Information about the 2013 AEC program is available on the [NSGC website](#).
- The 2014 AEC is scheduled for September 17-20, 2014 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Information about the 2014 AEC program will be available in May 2014 on the [NSGC website](#).
- NSGC has many online educational opportunities available for additional continuing education. These cover a variety of topics such as family history, coding and billing and cultural competency. Additional information on these and other course is available to the public on the [NSGC website](#).
- Recent courses of interest include:
 - NSGC launched a new online course, [Career Advancement and Professional Development: Finding, Creating, and Cultivating Opportunities](#), in June 2013. This course is focused on professional development for genetic counselors and genetics professionals.
 - The NSGC Access and Service Delivery Committee has produced online courses focused on coding and credentialing. These courses have been specifically designed as educational tools to help genetic counselors and other providers navigate the

complexities of billing and coding for genetic services. Additional information is available on the [NSGC website](#).

- Recordings of all sessions from the 2013 AEC and Preconference Symposia will be available [online](#) after January 25, 2014.

Liaison Activities

- NSGC President Elect Jennifer Hoskovec is representing NSGC as liaison to the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) Committee on Genetics.
- NSGC President Rebecca Nagy represented NSGC at the American College of Medical Genetics (ACMG) Meeting in Phoenix, AZ in March 2013.
- Barbara Bernhardt is serving 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.
- NSGC Past President Angela Trepanier is representing NSGC on the NCHPEG Board of Directors for a second three-year term ending in 2013.
- NSGC has been given an Organizational Representative seat on the HRSA Discretionary Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children Subcommittee (DACHDNC). Cate Walsh Vockley is representing NSGC in this role.
- NSGC was represented on the Institute of Medicine Roundtable on Translating Genomic-Based Research for Health by past President, Cathy Wicklund.
- Stephanie Brewster is representing NSGC as liaison to the ACMG Practice Guidelines Committee.
- Renee Chard, NSGC Education Committee Vice Chair, is representing NSGC as liaison to the ACMG Program Committee.
- Scott Weissman is serving as NSGC representative to both the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer and the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC).
- Rhonda Schonberg is NSGC’s representative to the National Advisory Council for Human Genome Research (NACHGR).
- NSGC Past President Steven Keiles represents NSGC on the National Task Force for Early Identification of Childhood Neuromuscular Disorders.
- Liz Varga is representing NSGC as a member of the Training Residents in Genetics (TRIG) Committee. The TRIG committee is comprised of representatives from pathology and genetics organizations and is focused on ensuring genetics is included in future training of pathology residents.
- Leigha Senter is representing NSGC as a member of the American Association of Oncology Nurse Navigators Advisory Committee.
- NSGC Past President Karin Dent is representing NSGC as a member of the Genetics and Primary Care Institute, an initiative of the American Academy of Pediatrics.
- Amy Sturm represented NSGC at a roundtable discussion on familial hypercholesterolemia hosted by the Foundation of the National Lipid Association at the CDC in February 2013.
- Heather Hampel has been appointed as a member of the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable (NCCRT), officially representing NSGC on this roundtable.
- NSGC Past President Kelly Ormond has been appointed as NSGC representative to a December 2013 NHGRI on incidental findings.

- Katie Stoll is representing NSGC on a Perinatal Quality Foundation task force to develop an expanded carrier screening practice guideline.

Government Relations and Advocacy

- NSGC recently approved a position statement on adoption. Several additional statements are in development or revision. All NSGC position statements are available on the [NSGC website](#).
- NSGC is pursuing legislation that will recognize genetic counselors as Medicare providers.
- NSGC has provided ongoing guidance to states pursuing licensure and writing licensure rules and regulations:
 - Issuing licenses: CA, DE, IL, IN, MA, NE, NM, OH, OK, PA, SD, TN, UT, WA
 - Passed bills/in rulemaking: HI, NH, NJ, ND
 - Bill introduced or preparing to introduce bills: CO, CT, FL, ID, KS, MD, MI, MN, MS, NY, OR, RI, TX, WI, VA