

Memo

To: ACMG, ASHG, ABGC, AGCPD, NACHGR, CAGC, Genetic Alliance, FORCE, ISONG
From: Karin Dent, 2011 President
Date: April 30, 2011
Re: NSGC Activity Update

Following are key highlights of NSGC strategic initiatives and other key activities through April 30, 2011. If you have questions about information not included in this report, please do not hesitate to contact me at 801-581-8943 or karin.dent@hsc.utah.edu.

NSGC Membership

- As of April 25, 2011 NSGC had 2,289 members in all categories that had renewed for 2011. Membership renewal for 2011 continues.

Board of Directors

- The NSGC Board of Directors meets monthly by phone and is met in person February 25-26 in Chicago, IL. This meeting included a strategic planning session for 2012 – 2014.
- The 2010-2012 NSGC Strategic Plan was revised in August 2010 and is available at <http://www.nsgc.org/Portals/0/NSGCStrategicPlan2010-2012Updated081010.pdf>

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 Kathryn Schafer at kschafer@nsgc.org with any questions.
- The 2010 Annual Education Conference (AEC) was held October 14-17, 2010 in Dallas, Texas. The AEC provides a broad spectrum of educational content covering advances in genetics and genomics and various areas of genetic counseling specialization. The 2010 AEC again included a day of 6 different symposia allowing for in-depth coverage of specific topics.
- Program planning is currently underway for the 2011 AEC, scheduled for October 27-30 in San Diego, California. The preliminary program will be available in late May.
- NSGC has a number of online educational opportunities available for additional continuing education, covering 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 at: <http://www.nsgc.org/Education/YearroundEducationalOpportunities/tabid/103/Default.aspx>
- Recent courses of interest include:

- NSGC's 2010 online course, *The Common Disease in the Family History*, launched in July 2010.
- 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.
- A follow up course focusing on credentialing of genetic counselors will be available in early May 2011.
- Recording of all sessions from the 2010 AEC and Preconference Symposia

Liaison Activities

- 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. Cate Walsh Vockley continues to represent NSGC at the Education and Training Subcommittee.
- 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.
- Lori Williamson has been nominated to represent NSGC on the 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 is representing NSGC at all NCHPEG Board through 2011.
- NSGC was represented on the Institute of Medicine Roundtable on Translating Genomic-Based Research for Health by past President, Cathy Wicklund. NSGC President Karin Dent will accompany Cathy at the July 2011 roundtable meeting.
- Liaison Scott Weissman represented NSGC at the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer (CoC0 meeting held May 5-6, 2010 in Chicago, IL. In addition to his role as liaison to the CoC, Scott serves as NSGC liaison to the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers.
- Jill Stopfer has been appointed as liaison to the ACOG Committee on Genetics and will be representing the interests of NSGC and genetic counselors in this capacity.
- Incoming President Elect Brenda Finucane represented NSGC at a Pathology Education Summit held September 24, 2010. The summit was focused on developing a genomics curriculum for pathology residents. Erynn Gordon has been appointed to represent NSGC on a committee formed as an outcome of the summit.
- NSGC President Karin Dent, Past President Liz Kearney and Executive Director Meghan Carey represented NSGC at the recent American College of Medical Genetics Meeting in Vancouver, BC in March 2011.

Collaborative Genetic Services Summit

- NSGC Past President Angela Trepanier is serving as the Principal Investigator on the Genetic Counseling Foundation funded Collaborative Genetic Services Summit.
- The purpose of the summit is to bring together primary care providers, genetics specialists, and other key stakeholders, including industry and advocacy organizations, to develop a competency (skills and knowledge)-based, and (if available) evidence-based, collaborative model for integrating genetics and genomics into healthcare.

- The summit is planned for August 15-16, 2011 in Washington, DC.

Government Relations and Advocacy

- NSGC released a position statement on genetic test regulation in October 2010. This statement and all NSGC position statements are available at:
<http://www.nsgc.org/Advocacy/PositionStatements/tabid/107/Default.aspx>
- NSGC has been on Capitol Hill and are close to announcing a bill sponsor. The legislation will recognize genetic counselors as Medicare providers.
- NSGC has provided ongoing guidance to states pursuing licensure and writing licensure rules and regulations:
 - Issuing licenses: DE, IL, IN, MA, NM, OK, SD, TN, UT, WA
 - Passed bills/in rulemaking: CA, HI, NJ
 - Bill introduced or preparing to introduce bills: CT, FL, ID, KS, MD, MI, MN, MS, NE, NH, NY, OH, OR, PA, RI, TX, WI, VA