

THE CERT ALERT!

ACVREP's Monthly Newsletter

- June 2008 -

Our Mission

ACVREP's mission is to offer professional certification for vision rehabilitation and education professionals in order to improve service delivery to persons with vision impairment. ACVREP is committed to quality certification programs that meet rigorous recognized standards. Programs are designed to offer certificants the means to demonstrate knowledge, skills, and professionalism.

Presidents Message

Thank you all for the warm greetings I received after the release of the last edition of the ACVREP Newsletter. In the last newsletter, I asked that you please contact me personally regarding any requests you may have related to certification or continuing education. I am glad to see that many of you took this opportunity to inform me of your needs, concerns, and unresolved matters. To date, we have resolved over 200 requests from our valued stakeholders as a result of this communication. While I am not proud of the number of stakeholders requesting immediate assistance, I am proud of the fact that we at ACVREP have dedicated ourselves to remedy these matters in a timely fashion and will continue improve stakeholder communication and satisfaction.

I would also like to thank those of you who referred your colleagues and peers to me with their requests and concerns. It is my sincerest desire for ACVREP to fully support a strong community of professionals in the blind and low vision field and this type of communication goes a long way in accomplishing this goal. Again, please feel free to contact me at anytime with your concerns or requests at gholm@acvrep.org. Always remember, we are accountable to you and it is our most sincere desire to provide you

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the assistance and support you need in a timely manner. Understanding the importance of your work, you deserve our very best service.

On that note, I was recently reminded of the importance of your work and the impact you have on individuals, families and the community as a whole. I had the opportunity to talk with a parent whose child receives services from a Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist (COMS) in Arizona. In our conversation, I came to understand that the services provided by our certified professions truly improve the quality of life of those receiving said services and their families. I wish that I could fully relate the joy and gratitude expressed by this parent when they talked about their child's abilities in this format. What I am able to express, however, is the pride I feel in knowing of your accomplishments and that I am very proud to be a part of ACVREP.

In the last newsletter, I mentioned that we will be improving our resources to facilitate better communication with our stakeholders. As an update, I am happy to inform you that we are making good progress on that project. As part of our overall information and technology (IT) plan, our new phone system will be operational within the next 30 days and the new website design will be on-line within 45 days. Acknowledging that resources are only a part of the equation, we have also implemented several new policies and procedures to promote a more timely response to your requests and inquiries. These efforts effectively demonstrate a new level of commitment to our stakeholders and I am confident that in time, our actions will yield positive results and greater satisfaction.

With the changes currently being implemented and those yet to come, I hope that you too take pride in being part of ACVREP. After all, your efforts in becoming an ACVREP certified professional clearly demonstrates a strong commitment to the profession and even greater commitment to those seeking and utilizing services. ACVREP certification is more than just a piece of paper...it is a statement.

Garett A. Holm, President

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Congratulations to Dr. Sally Mangold and Dr. Richard L. Welsh!!

The Hall of Fame for Leaders and Legends of the Blindness Field, founded in 2001, is housed at the American Printing House for the Blind (APH) in Louisville, Kentucky. The Hall, which belongs to the entire field of blindness, is dedicated to preserving the tradition of excellence manifested by specific individuals through the history of outstanding services provided to people who are blind or visually impaired in North America. The Hall is guided by a nine member Board of Governors.

To date, forty outstanding professionals who made significant contributions to the field of blindness in the recent and distant past have been inducted into the Hall of Fame. Now joining those legends are two remarkable individuals who will be inducted on Friday evening, October 3, at a ceremony that will be held in conjunction with APH's Annual Meeting of Ex Officio Trustees and Special Guests.

To Be Inducted in 2008:

Sally Mangold, Ph.D.

Sally Mangold served as a Resource Room teacher for students with visual impairments for 18 years. She followed that important role with that of Professor at San Francisco State University for another 18 years. Sally was a passionate proponent and champion of braille literacy throughout her career. She was a pioneer in the institution of the Distance Education Program at SFSU. She and husband Phil founded Exceptional Teaching Aids, a company promoting and selling products for visually impaired clients and teachers. Among her many achievements was the creation of the Mangold Developmental Program of Tactile Perception and Braille Letter Recognition, hailed as a landmark program for braille instruction.

According to AFB President Carl Augusto, "Sally Mangold's writings, techno-logical breakthroughs, and teachings have not only enabled children and adults who are blind or visually impaired to learn braille, but also have raised awareness to the critical importance of braille literacy."

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Among her awards and honors were the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER) Josephine L. Taylor Leadership Award, the California Transcribers (CTEVH) Fred L. Sinclair Award, the Holbrook-Humphries Literacy Award, the American Foundation of the Blind Migel Medal, and the American Printing House for the Blind Creative Use of Braille Award.

Richard L. Welsh, Ph.D.

During his illustrious career, Rick Welsh has served as an orientation and mobility specialist, a college instructor and professor, a counselor, a coordinator of rehabilitation services, and an agency administrator, most notably as President of both the Maryland School for the Blind and Pittsburgh Vision Services.

Two of Dr. Welsh's many significant contributions include co-editing the first and second editions of the primary textbook used by programs educating orientation and mobility specialists, *Foundations in Orientation and Mobility*, and providing the leadership in the consolidation of two prior, long-standing professional associations to form the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER) in 1984. He then served as the first elected President of the organization.

Frances Mary D'Andrea observes, "Rick has that rare ability to take the long view, and with remarkable foresight to forge a vision of what could be—and then work hard to make it a reality."

Among his honors and awards are the inaugural D.C./Maryland AER Chapter Service Award, established in his honor, the American Foundation for the Blind Migel Medal, the American Association for Blind Workers C. Warren Bledsoe Award, and the AER Ambrose M. Shotwell Award.

ACVREP Updates

Extension of Category 3 "Expedited Track" Low Vision Therapy Eligibility Application. ACVREP is proud to announce the extension of the

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expedited of the Category 3 "Expedited Track" Low Vision Eligibility Application. This opportunity was to expire at the end of this month. However, in response to stakeholder demand, the ACVREP Board of Directors has decided to extend the policy until December 31, 2008. For more information regarding this opportunity, please contact Jessica Trevino at jtrevino@acvrep.org or (520) 887-6816.

VRT Beta Testing. We have completed Best test analysis and item review for the new Vision Rehabilitation Therapy (VRT). The ACVREP Board of

Directors will set the cut score for the VRT examination based on the Beta test analysis and the recommendations provided by the VRT subcommittee and Subject matter experts. After the cut score has been approved by the Board of Directors, we will be notifying the individuals who participated in the Beta of their results via e-mail. If you did not provide an e-mail address at your testing site, please forward your email address to Jessica Trevino, Certificant Services Coordinator at jtrevino@acvrep.org. We thank everyone who participated in the Beta test and appreciate your patience.

Announcements!

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP ORGANIZATION ANNOUNCES NEW NAME

St. Louis, Missouri, May 28, 2008 - The Board of Directors of the National Council of Private Agencies for the Blind and Visually Impaired (NCPABVI) is pleased to announce that its members have adopted a new organizational name. Headquartered in St. Louis, Missouri, the organization known since 1984 as NCPABVI, has been renamed **VisionServe Alliance**.

VisionServe Alliance has been well received by the vision rehabilitation community:

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"I love the new name ... it is dynamic, positive and clear. Joan Stuart, Blind Services of North Georgia.

"I love the new name ... the former name was a mouthful, and the acronym (NCPABVI) was full of letters that are easily misheard, especially over the phone. The new name has a great ring ... Great thinking!" Jason, Society of Non-Profit Organizations

"VisionServe Alliance is an easy name to remember and our wide array of member organizations can readily identify with it. From a personal perspective, the name inspires me with the sense that many diverse organizations across the country are working together to improve the lives of people with vision loss." Pam Brandin, Vista Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired

VisionServe Alliance's mission is *to engage leaders in building a better world through services to people with vision loss*, and its members include the Executive Directors and Chief Executive Officers of organizations throughout the United States who provide services to people with severe vision loss or blindness, including guide dog schools, Braille producers, low vision clinics, adult rehabilitation centers, schools for the blind, pre-school and early intervention programs, athletic activities, technology training and implementation, and employment/manufacturing programs. VisionServe Alliance members are committed to building and nurturing a diverse core of future and current leaders within a healthy and vibrant network of private nonprofit organizations throughout the United States and Canada whose commitment is to enrich the lives of those living with vision loss and to remove the barriers to the pursuit of opportunities.

For more information about VisionServe Alliance, please contact:

Roxann Mayros

Telephone: 314-961-8235

Email: rmayros@agenciesfortheblind.org

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ACVREP Approved Continuing Education Opportunities

NAME OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: “Innovative Supports, Differentiation, and Functional Instruction for Students with Significant Needs” – Northwestern Illinois association

LOCATION: Elgin Community College, Elgin, Illinois

DATE(S): November 8, 2008

CE HOURS: 6

CONTACT INFORMATION: Northwestern Illinois Association, 2422 W. Main St., Ste. 3A, St. Charles, Illinois, 60175. (800) 527-5012 - toll free, (630) 513-6781 - phone, (630) 513- 1980 - fax, bestpractice@thenia.org.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: Information available on the Northwestern Illinois Association website, www.thenia.org.

DESCRIPTION OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: This workshop is designed to instruct participants in identifying learning characteristics of students with a variety of significant challenges; share, promote, and apply effective planning and curricular processes; articulate functional skills curricular areas and brainstorm the best times, places, and means to teach these skills; create a resource document of functional, adaptive, and differentiated supports to utilize in school settings.

NAME OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: “Project Math Access” – Michigan Department of Education

LOCATION: Okemos Conference Center, 2187 University Park Drive, Okemos, MI

DATE(S): November 9, 2008, 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

CE HOURS: 5.5

CONTACT INFORMATION: Virginia Waugaman, 888-760-2206, waugamanv@michigan.gov

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: www.cenmi.org/msdb-lia. Registration form will be found under events.

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DESCRIPTION OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: The Michigan Department of Education – Low incidence Outreach (MDE-LIO) project is pleased to announce an upcoming Project Math Access Conference to be held on October 19, 2008 in Lansing. The developers of the Project Math Access, Dr. Gaylen Kapperman and Jodi Sticken, will present this exciting and innovative one-day interactive conference. This conference is a follow-up to the project SLATE conference that MDE-LIO hosted in March of 2008 and was highly recommended by Dr. Cay Holbrook.

NAME OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: “9th Annual Sowell Center Distinguished Lecturer Series” – Virginia Murray Sowell Center for Research and Education in Visual Impairment

LOCATION: Texas Tech University, English/Philosophy Building, Lecture Hall (basement), Lubbock, Texas

DATE: November 10, 2008

CE HOURS: 6.5

CONTACT INFORMATION: Anita Page at 806-742-1997 x227 or anita.page@ttu.edu

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: \$80 if registered prior to October 26th, \$100 if registered after October 26th, includes lunch and snacks on Saturday. Deadline: October 26, 2008. Please include a check, money order, or purchase order. Checks should be made out to “Virginia Sowell Center-TTU”.

DESCRIPTION OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: Keynote speaker is Mr. D. Jay Gense, Director of Special Schools and Programs with the Oregon Department of Education, and Ms. Marilyn H. Gense, M.A., a Special Education Coordinator with Willamette Education Service District. They will be presenting on Autism Spectrum Disorders and Visual Impairment.

NAME OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: “Not Just Any (NE) AER - 2008 Annual NEAER Conference” - NEAER

LOCATION: Quincy, Massachusetts

DATE(S): November 14-16, 2008

CE HOURS: 17.5

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CONTACT INFORMATION: www.neaer.umb.edu. There are downloadable Registration Forms, Preliminary Conference Program, and hotel information.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: Tim Traut-Savino at savino@sharon.k12.ma.us or <mailto:savino@sharon.k12.ma.us> or Meg Robertson at mobilitymeg@aol.com or <mailto:MobilityMeg@aol.com>. All registration forms should be sent to: NE/AER Conference 2008, PO Box 483, Sharon, MA 02067.

DESCRIPTION OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: Come join us in historic Quincy, Massachusetts for “Not Just ANY (NE) AER!”: 2008 NEAER Annual Conference. This conference includes three pre-conference offerings (VRT, O&M and Infant/Preschool/Multiple Disabilities) as well as general sessions and concurrent sessions each day. There will also be poster sessions and an exhibitor hall to check out the latest and greatest products in the field of blindness.

NAME OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: “Low Vision Care...What’s It All About?” – Eschenbach Optik of America, Inc.

LOCATION: Please refer to website

DATE(S): Please refer to website

CE HOURS: 3

CONTACT INFORMATION: Nicole Nuzzo

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: Call 1-800-487-5389, x203 or visit www.eschenbach.com

DESCRIPTION OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: A lecture and hands-on workshop covering an overview of eye diseases that cause vision impairment and a review of the major types of vision aids that can assist the visually impaired.

NAME OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: “Low Vision Modular Training Program” – Eschenbach Optik of America, Inc.

LOCATION: Please refer to website

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DATE(S): Approved through December 31, 2008

CE HOURS: Up to 1 CE hour for each module

CONTACT INFORMATION: 1-800-487-5389 or info@eschenbach.com.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: Call 1-800-487-5389 or visit www.eschenbach.com.

DESCRIPTION OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: Eschenbach offers a comprehensive, modular educational program that can help you improve your low vision knowledge and patient outcomes. Available to Eschenbach customers, the program is delivered in one-hour modules and is presented in your office at a time that is convenient to you. Each of the 3 practice management modules is presented in a lecture format, and the 8 clinical modules include both a lecture presentation and hands-on workshop. Choose from the following topics: Low Vision Patient History, Visual Acuity, Hand-Held Magnifiers, Stand Magnifiers, Magnifying Spectacles, Telescopic Vision Aids (Part 1 or part 2), Video Magnifiers, Low Vision Patient Training, Marketing Low Vision Services, and Optimizing Reimbursement for Low Vision Services. Whether you're a new low vision practitioner or a seasoned professional, Eschenbach's Modular Training Program has something for you that can help enhance your low vision care.

NAME OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: "Telescopes: Theory & Practice" – Lighthouse International

LOCATION: Online Course

DATE(S): Approved through December 31, 2008

CE HOURS: 1

CONTACT INFORMATION: Email Cydney Strand at cstrand@lighthouse.org

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: Available at www.lighthouse.org/ce

DESCRIPTION OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: This lesson surveys types of telescopes and the inherent characteristics that affect their use. The optics of basic

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telescopic scopes systems are introduced as well as the ways in which different telescopes meet a variety of patient needs and interests.

NAME OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: "Guide Dogs (EBR-121)" – The Hadley School for the Blind

LOCATION: Distance Education

DATE(S): Open enrollment through December 31, 2008

CE HOURS: 10

CONTACT INFORMATION: The Hadley School for the Blind, 700 Elm Street, Winnetka, IL 60093

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: www.hadley.edu or Student Services at 800-526-9909

DESCRIPTION OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: Is your student or client considering a guide dog? This story-based course provides information about becoming a guide dog user. If you're working with individuals who are considering a guide dog, this course will provide you with insight into the decision-making process so that you can better empathize with your clients.

NAME OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: "Contracted Braille" - Hadley School for the Blind (Course ID:DPF-211)

LOCATION: On-line or hard copy course

DATE(S): Approved through December 31, 2008

CE HOURS: 60

CONTACT INFORMATION: The Hadley School for the Blind, 700 Elm St., Winnetka, IL 60093-2554

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: www.hadley.edu or Student Services at 800-526-9909

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DESCRIPTION OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: Whether you are a parent or a school child who is blind or you are working in the blindness field, your ability to read and emboss contracted Braille will enhance your relationship with your child or client. The goal of this course is to enable you to visually read and emboss contracted Braille.

NAME OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: "Self-Esteem and Adjusting with Blindness" - Hadley School for the Blind (Course ID: E-RH-201)

LOCATION: On-Line Course

DATE(S): Approved through December 31, 2008

CE HOURS: 40

CONTACT INFORMATION: The Hadley School for the Blind, 700 Elm St., Winnetka, IL 60093-2554

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: www.hadley.edu or Student Services at 800-526-9909

DESCRIPTION OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: Whether you were born visually impaired or lost vision later in life, this course can help you, a family member, or a client adjust to life's demands. Maintaining self-esteem with the changes and adaptations that come with blindness are discussed in depth and illustrated with quotes from many blind persons.

NAME OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: "Introduction to Braille" - Hadley School for the Blind (Course ID D-PF-201)

LOCATION: On-line or hard copy course

DATE(S): Approved through December 31, 2008

CE HOURS: 30

CONTACT INFORMATION: The Hadley School for the Blind, 700 Elm St., Winnetka, IL 60093-2554

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: www.hadley.edu or Student

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Services at 800-526-9909

DESCRIPTION OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: Want to read Braille visually? This course gives you the tools to communicate in writing with others who read Braille. Its goal is to enable you to read and write grade 1 Braille. As an introductory course, it does not make you fully proficient in Braille. To do so, additional study and practice are necessary.

NAME OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: "Independent Living" - Hadley School for the Blind (Course ID:D-PF-101)

LOCATION: Hard copy course

DATE(S): Approved through December 31, 2008

CE HOURS: 30

CONTACT INFORMATION: The Hadley School for the Blind, 700 Elm St., Winnetka, IL 60093-2554

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: www.hadley.edu or Student Services at 800-526-9909

DESCRIPTION OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: Any uncertainties your family member or client feels in the wake of vision loss can be replaced with a growing sense of optimism as he or she learns different ways to accomplish things. This course suggests techniques and resources to complete the everyday tasks once performed with vision.

NAME OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: "The Human Eye" - Hadley School for the Blind (Course ID:E-RH-071)

LOCATION: Hard copy course

DATE(S): Approved through December 31, 2008

CE HOURS: 30

CONTACT INFORMATION: The Hadley School for the Blind, 700 Elm St., Winnetka, IL 60093-2554

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REGISTRATION INFORMATION: www.hadley.edu or Student Services at 800-526-9909

DESCRIPTION OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: This course is for you if you work with individuals who are visually impaired, whether they are children or adults. The general anatomy and function of the parts of the eye are described in everyday terms. Eye diseases and their treatments and the practical implications of each disease are presented.

NAME OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: "Basic Nemeth Code" – Hadley School for the Blind (DPF-221)

LOCATION: Hard copy course

DATE(S): Approved through December 31, 2008

CE HOURS: 30

CONTACT INFORMATION: The Hadley School for the Blind, 700 Elm St., Winnetka, IL 60093

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: www.hadley.edu or Student Services at 800-526-9909

DESCRIPTION OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: The Nemeth Code for Science and Mathematics includes all the symbols a Braille user needs to engage in written math and science. This course introduces you to many of the basic Nemeth Code symbols. By learning the basics of the Nemeth Code, you can help students who are blind to develop mathematical skills that will serve them throughout their school years and beyond. The goal of this course is to read and Braille the basic symbols of the Nemeth Code.

NAME OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: "Diabetes: Toward Self-Management" – Hadley School for the Blind (DIA-121)

LOCATION: On-Line Course

DATE(S): Approved through December 31, 2008

CE HOURS: 30

CONTACT INFORMATION: The Hadley School for the Blind, 700 Elm

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St., Winnetka, IL 60093

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: www.hadley.edu or Student Services at 800-526-9909

DESCRIPTION OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: This course enables the student to identify the factors necessary to successfully manage diabetes. It is based on recommendations of the American Diabetes Association, the American Dietetic Association, and the American Association of Diabetes Educators. The lessons offer information to supplement the guidance provided by health care professionals.

NAME OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: "Self-Help Groups: Advanced Topics" – Hadley School for the Blind (Course ID: E-IL-551)

LOCATION: Hard copy course

DATE(S): Approved through December 31, 2008

CE HOURS: 20

CONTACT INFORMATION: The Hadley School for the Blind, 700 Elm St., Winnetka, IL 60093-2554

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: www.hadley.edu or Student Services at 800-526-9909

DESCRIPTION OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: Are you thinking about starting a self-help group? This course can help you transform that idea into reality. It describes the skills needed to plan, organize, and lead a self-help group for blind and visually impaired people or their family members.

NAME OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: "Glaucoma" – Hadley School for the Blind (GLA-121)

LOCATION: On-Line Course

DATE(S): Approved through December 31, 2008

CE HOURS: 20

CONTACT INFORMATION: The Hadley School for the Blind, 700 Elm St., Winnetka, IL 60093

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REGISTRATION INFORMATION: www.hadley.edu or Student Services at 800-526-9909

DESCRIPTION OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: Glaucoma affects tens of millions of people worldwide, but despite its prevalence, many people lack accurate information about this disease. Therefore, the goal of this course is to provide glaucoma-related information to help the professional take a supportive role during his or her client's adjustment to life with glaucoma. The lessons describe the workings of the eye as well as the diagnosis and treatment of glaucoma. They also discuss the emotional impact of

vision loss and ways to continue daily activities when such loss occurs. The material in this course is informational only and does not replace the advice of a medical specialist.

NAME OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: "Macular Degeneration" – Hadley School for the Blind (MDG-111)

LOCATION: On-Line Course

DATE(S): Approved through December 31, 2008

CE HOURS: 20

CONTACT INFORMATION: The Hadley School for the Blind, 700 Elm St., Winnetka, IL 60093

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: www.hadley.edu or Student Services at 800-526-9909

DESCRIPTION OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: Have you recently discovered that a person you serve through your work has age-related macular degeneration (AMD)? This course enables you to take a supportive role in the rehabilitation process. You'll acquire specific information about macular degeneration and learn how people with AMD continue accustomed activities with limited vision.

NAME OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: "Vision 2008-The 9th International Conference on Low Vision" – School of Optometry, University of Montreal

LOCATION: Congress Centre, Montreal, Canada

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DATE(S): July 7-11, 2008

CE HOURS: 35

CONTACT INFORMATION: School of Optometry, University of Montreal, Case postale 6128, succursale Centre-Ville, Montreal, Qc, H3C 3J7, (514) 343-6111- phone, (514) 343-2382- fax, jacques.gresset@umontreal.ca or olga.overbury@umontreal.ca -email.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: Information available on website, <http://www.opto.umontreal.ca/vision2008/>

DESCRIPTION OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: Vision 2008-The 9th International Conference on Low Vision will be held from July 7 to 11, 2008, in Montreal. The Institut Nazareth et Louis-Braille (a rehabilitation centre specialized in visual impairment) and the University of Montreal's School of Optometry will oversee the organization of this conference in partnership with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) under the auspices of the International Society for Low Vision Research and Rehabilitation (ISLRR). The theme of the conference is Rehabilitation-Research Partnerships and, consequently, will not only bring together researcher and practioners but will specifically encourage direct communication among representatives of these to major domains. One innovative feature of the conference is a series of 22 R&R (Rehabilitation-Research) Sessions that will bring together internationally renowned representatives of both factions to discuss major topics of concern to the field. Issues to be broached in this format will include Driving with Low Vision, Gerontology and Visual Impairment, Implications of Brain Plasticity for Visual Rehabilitation, and Pediatric Low Vision Care in Developing Countries. The conference will also feature plenary and concurrent sessions in the format of symposia, panel discussions, continuing education courses, oral and poster presentations. The content of the conference makes it unique in its appeal and utility to a wide range of disciplines: ophthalmology, optometry, rehabilitation teaching, orientation and mobility, occupational therapy, gerontology, vision research, rehabilitation technology, to name a few. It is also the only conference whose entire program is dedicated to the area of visual impairment across the life span. Finally, Vision 2008 will welcome the general public on Wednesday, July 9th, providing an opportunity to visit the Exhibit Hall, view the scientific posters, and participate in the Community Learning Forum organized by CNIB.

NAME OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: "2008 MN Statewide BVI Conference" – MN AER

LOCATION: Deerwood, MN

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DATE(S): May 1-2, 2008

CE HOURS: 9

CONTACT INFORMATION: MN AER, 2740 Wingfield Ave. N, Anoka, MN 55303
(763) 506-1405 - phone, (763) 506- 1365- fax, julie.kochevar@anoka.k12.mn.us

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: Information available on the website,
www.eventville.com/mde

DESCRIPTION OF CE PROGRAM/ACTIVITY: Focus it Forward

Job and Career Advancement Opportunities

Agency: DBVI

Agency Title: Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired

Role Title: Trainer & Instructor II (O&M)

Work Title: Orientation and Mobility Specialist

Position #: 00045

Location: Norfolk

Open To: General Public

Pay Band: 4 (\$31,352 - \$64,347)

Hiring Range: Neg based on qualifications & salary history

Close Date: Open Until Filled / Continuous

Comments:

*****UP TO \$10,000 SIGN-ON BONUS*****

The Virginia Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired (DBVI) is the Commonwealth's agency solely dedicated to empowering individuals who are blind, vision impaired, and deafblind to achieve their maximum level of employment, education, and personal independence. DBVI services include vocational rehabilitation, education, independent living skills, orientation and mobility, deafblind services and a comprehensive statewide low vision program. The agency also operates the Virginia Rehabilitation Center for the

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Blind and Vision Impaired, (a residential training facility), a Library and Resource Center that provides library services and produces and distributes educational materials in alternative media, the Virginia Industries for the Blind, and the Randolph-Sheppard vending facility program. DBVI employees embody the values of integrity, honesty and teamwork, ensuring respect for customers and supporting personal choice.

Responsibilities

We are seeking a dynamic individual to provide orientation and mobility assessment and instruction to blind and visually impaired persons to enable

them to maximize their ability to travel safely and independently in both familiar and unfamiliar environments.

Qualifications

You will need thorough knowledge of orientation and mobility principles, psychosocial aspects of blindness, the rehabilitation process, and the education of students with visual impairments. Must possess the skill and ability to assess orientation and mobility needs and then to plan and carry out an individualized program of O&M instruction to meet those needs. Must have skill and ability to assess functional vision and instruct in the proper use of prescribed low vision aids. This position requires the ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing with customers, co-workers, and other professionals. The successful candidate **MUST** possess education and/or training in orientation and mobility and **MUST** be certified by ACVREP (COMS) or National Blindness Professional Certification Board (NOMC). Prefer applicants who have experience working with visually impaired adults. Requires successful completion of fingerprinting and background check.

Salary is negotiable above the minimum of the pay band based on qualifications and salary history. Comprehensive state benefits program. Visit our Career Center at www.vdbvi.org for more information.

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Contact Information: Applications are required! The Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired ONLY accepts FULLY completed online applications submitted directly from the Virginia Commonwealth Recruitment Management System, located at <http://jobs.agencies.virginia.gov/>. Resumes may NOT be substituted for State applications, and applications received by paper, email or fax will NOT be accepted.

Don't have a computer? Internet access may be available to you through your local library, Virginia Employment Commission office, and in the Department of Human Resource Management's Career Center.

Reasonable accommodations are available to persons with disabilities during application and/or interview processes per the Americans with Disabilities Act. Contact 804-726-1919 for assistance. Minorities and people with disabilities are encouraged to apply. EEO/AA/TTY. Sign-on bonus based on time in job.

Looking for a change? Starting your O&M Career?

Consider this Exciting Orientation and Mobility Job Opening
At The Maryland School For The Blind
CALL Colleen Calhoon at 410-444-5000 X321 or
...E-MAIL at ColleenC@mdschblind.org

Check out this opportunity!

- To work at a residential school for the blind on a beautiful 99-acre campus
- To work with a variety of students with academic, functional life skills, and multiple impaired teaching needs
- To work full time (35 hr. work week) with flexible scheduling...most of us work a 4-day work week...not to mention – summers off!
- To work with 8 enthusiastic O&Mers who have diverse teaching philosophies

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- To work in public school settings through our outreach & contractual services
- To receive a full benefit package and a salary based on your educational level

The school is located in Baltimore, Maryland – only 20 minutes from city life and 30 minutes from country life. We are 3 hours from the ocean; 2 hours from the mountains; 3 hours from New York City; and 1 hour from Washington DC. Everything you are looking for is within reach. You can't beat the location.

Our large department is a GREAT place for new graduates to learn and grow in a supported and mentoring environment. It is also a MOTIVATING place for the experienced O&Mer to share ideas and stimulate new teaching approaches.

We will be interviewing into the summer months. We would like to fill the Fall 2008 position. Our interview process is a fun-filled day of interview, observations, meet and greet at lunch with the O&M gang, and lots of time for your questions! Free overnight dorm housing is available so that you can

come the night before and rest comfortably before the interview or stay afterwards and scout out the area...or both!

We are looking for a person who will bring new ideas and energy to our Department. It could be you!

Come and interview to join our O&M Family

Check us out and soon you will be saying:

“There's no place like home, at The Maryland School For The Blind!”

Contact Colleen Rae Calhoon 410-444-5000 X321

***Director/Coordinator of VRT Program-- PENNSYLVANIA COLLEGE
OF OPTOMETRY (Tenure Track Full-Time Position)***

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Primary Functions

Directs professional preparation for Vision Rehabilitation Therapist (formerly Rehabilitation Teacher) –VRT Program and Teaches/Supervises in Low Vision or O&M or TVI. (PCO offers four programs including VRT, Low Vision Rehabilitation (LVR), Orientation and Mobility (O&M) and Teachers of Children with Visual and Multiple Disabilities (TVI), in addition to the VRT Program). The Director/Coordinator of the VRT

Program will also teach and supervise in one of the three other program areas.

Principal Duties and Responsibilities

1. Coordinates all aspects of the VRT Program
2. Teaches VRT specific courses (on-line and face-to-face): Principles of Rehabilitation Teaching, Independent Living, and Communication Courses, and Co-Teach Core Courses
3. Recruits and advises VRT students
4. Teaches and assists with supervision in other certified areas (e.g., O&M or Low Vision or TVI)
5. Serves as a member of the Graduate Studies management team
6. Assures that the VRT program meets State, Middle State and ACVREP Standards, and assists in other program area standards
7. Maintains records and prepares all reports for accreditation, grant, and program approval.
8. Coordinates curriculum development and design of VRT courses and assists in other program development.
9. Develops and manages VRT extramural grant efforts including collection of data and preparation of state, federal and other required reports for VRT and assists in other extramural grant efforts.
10. Arranges and supervises VRT internships and assists in other certification areas, including community and in-house student/client/patient assessment and instruction.

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Education/Experience

Master's Degree Required (Doctorate Preferred) in Vision Rehabilitation Therapy (formerly Rehabilitation Teaching) and certification in one other area of blindness/visual impairment such as Low Vision, Orientation & Mobility or Teacher of Children who are Blind or Visually Impaired, and minimum of 5 years of full-time direct teaching experience with adults who are blind or visually impaired.

Skills and Other Requirements

Administration, team collaboration, professional writing.

Other Desirable Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

Higher education teaching, knowledge and experience in androgogy, and other areas blindness and visual impairment and multiple disabilities. Grantsmanship, curriculum development, program development, advocacy activities, and work adults with visual impairments and disability consumer groups. This is a 1.0 FTE and is located on the Elkins Park Campus of the Pennsylvania College of Optometry which will become a University during 2008. Salary is commensurate with experience and qualifications for a tenure track administrative position. Position will remain open until filled. All interested parties should send a formal application, copies of up-to-date Certifications and 3 letters of recommendations from professionals in the field of blindness and visual impairment attesting to the applicant's qualifications for this particular job. For more information about Graduate Studies in Vision Impairment please visit our Website at:

http://www.pco.edu/acad_progs/grad/grad_prgs.htm.

Send complete application to Chair,
Search Committee:
Kathleen M. Huebner, Ph.D.
Professor and Associate Dean
Graduate Studies in Vision Impairment
Pennsylvania College of Optometry
8360 Old York Road

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Elkins Park, PA 19027
Phone: 215 780-1360
Fax: 215-780-1357
E-Mail: Kathyh@pco.edu

*Coordinator Graduate Studies in Vision Impairment Fieldwork,
Practicum, and Internship and Community Rehabilitation Services
Program -- PENNSYLVANIA COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY
PENNSYLVANIA COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY*

***Non-Tenure Track Full-Time Administrative Position**

Primary Functions

Coordinate, in cooperation with four Program Directors, the fieldwork, practicum, and internship for all students in the Graduate Studies in Vision Impairment degree and certificate programs. This includes the professional preparation programs for Teachers of Children with Visual and Multiple Disabilities (TVI), Orientation & Mobility (O&M), Vision Rehabilitation Therapy (VRT) and Low Vision Rehabilitation (LVR) programs. In addition, coordinate the Community Rehabilitation Services Program (CRSP) through which comprehensive assessments and direct services are contracted and provided throughout the greater Philadelphia Community area.

Principal Duties and Responsibilities

1. Coordination of all aspects the fieldwork, practicum and internship experiences for masters degree and certificate students in the four program disciplines
2. Works cooperatively with the four program directors
3. Works with qualified and certified supervising TVIs, O&M specialists, Low Vision Rehabilitation Therapists, and Vision Rehabilitation Therapists.

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4. Coordination of CRSP, which includes development of contracts with individuals, school districts and others for the provision of comprehensive assessments and direct services.
5. Recruitment of additional qualified and certified supervisors in all four program areas.
6. Processing and correction of fieldwork, practicum and internship assignments.
7. Supervision of interns as appropriate with qualifications.
8. Works with all four program directors to assure programs meet State Standards, as well as other standards for personnel preparation set forth by CEC, AER, and ACVREP.
9. Works with program directors on grants report preparation for state, accreditation, and other program credentials.
10. Overall management of fieldwork, practicum and internships including collection of data for all official uses.
11. Teaching responsibilities as appropriate with qualifications and interest.

Required Education/Experience

Masters Degree Required, Doctorate preferred. Certification in two or more of the following: Teacher of Children with Visual Impairments and Blindness, Orientation and Mobility Specialist, Vision Rehabilitation Therapy (formerly, Rehabilitation Teaching), and /or Low Vision Therapy. Full time practitioner in the field of blindness and visual impairment for a minimum of 3 years but 5 years or more preferred.

Skills and Other Requirements

Administration, team collaboration, professional writing. Up to-date certifications.

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Other Desirable Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

Knowledge and experience in child development, multiple impairments, geriatrics, deaf-blindness or other areas of special education. Grantsmanship, advocacy activities, and work with parents and families of individuals with visual impairments and disability consumer groups. This is a 1.0 FTE and is located on the Elkins Park Campus of the Pennsylvania College of Optometry which will become a University during 2008. Salary is commensurate with experience and qualifications for a non-tenure track administrative position. Position will remain open until filled. All interested parties should send a formal application, copies of up-to-date certifications and 3 letters of recommendations from professionals in the field of blindness and visual impairment attesting to the applicant's qualifications for this particular job. For more information about Graduate Studies in Vision Impairment visit: http://www.pco.edu/acad_progs/grad/grad_prgs.htm.

Send complete application to Chair of
Search Committee:
Kathleen M. Huebner, Ph.D.
Professor and Associate Dean
Graduate Studies in Vision Impairment
Pennsylvania College of Optometry
8360 Old York Road
Elkins Park, PA 19027
Phone: 215 780-1360
Fax: 215-780-1357
E-Mail: Kathyh@pco.edu

Be Sure to Read Next Month's ACVREP Newsletter!

Dedicated Topic — *New York State Licensure Legislation S5308/A8471:
History and Perspectives*

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Also, learn more about the ACVREP Board of Directors Nomination Process. We will be soliciting nominations for the ACVREP Board of Directors beginning in July 2008.

ACVREP Board of Directors:

Judy van Naerssen, M.S., OTRL, CLVT (Chairperson)

Tom Miller (Vice-Chairperson)

Jim Kracht, J.D. (Treasurer)

Anita Arakawa, M.A., CVRT, CLVT (Secretary)

Barbara Hunt, M.A., CVRT

Anita Aaron, M.P.A.

John Ford, M.A., COMS, CLVT

Kathleen M. Huebner, Ph.D., COMS

Dawn Pickering, OC(C), COMT, CLVT

Ken Rosenthal, J.D.

Gwen Sterns, MD

The ACVREP Staff:

Garett A. Holm, President

gholm@acvrep.org

Jessica Trevino, Certificant Services Coordinator

jtrevino@acvrep.org

Bill Kuczek, Bookkeeper

wkuczek@acvrep.org