



# Annual Report

2005—2006



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## Foreword

The CCEA arose in 2002 due to a variety of necessities, including the need for a single accreditation agency for chiropractic first professional programs. Inherent within this formation was the need to incorporate government, legislative and professional requirements in an Australian format and structure and yet satisfy international equivalencies. A necessary component of CCEA becoming fully and solely operational has involved the transition from its predecessors the ACCE and JEC. Full transfer of responsibilities has indeed occurred and CCEA is now a full member of the international body (CCEI). The CCEA is strongly positioned and resourced to lead chiropractic educational standards and competencies in its region into the future.

Council's purpose and objects revolve predominantly around: 1. The accreditation of first-professional chiropractic programs within the Australasian region and 2. The assessment of suitability of overseas trained chiropractors wishing to practice in Australia.

The Accreditation Committee, chaired by Ms Maria Keys, has had a significant and very busy year with all Australian and New Zealand chiropractic programs to be either inspected or in process to be inspected. This has involved a significant amount of coordination and review. We thank Ms Keys for her tireless and comprehensive effort and leadership.

Activities in relation to the assessment of overseas trained chiropractors have continued with competency assessments conducted at Macquarie and RMIT Universities. This year has focused on continuing to standardise the assessments in both structure and format, not only in the Australian programs, but also with New Zealand due to existing Trans-Tasman legislation.

I'm pleased to announce that Council again has returned a surplus and its finances are in good order. Further details are available in this Annual Report.

Many thanks, gratitude and accolades are to be given to the Councillors, Committees and others who not only make available their valuable time, but who also provide their effort and services on a voluntary basis. I am truly indebted to all of you for this, and also for your support and dedication.

It has indeed been an honour and privilege to have served in this position and to have worked with all involved.

Yours sincerely



Philip Donato, Chairperson CCEA

## 1. Status of the Council

The Council on Chiropractic Education Australasia Inc (the "Council") is a legal entity that was incorporated in South Australia in February 2002. The Council officially commenced operation on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2002 with the holding of its Inaugural Meeting in Hobart, Tasmania.

The Council was formed to encompass the roles and operations of two separate accreditation bodies within Australia and New Zealand, namely the Australasian Council on Chiropractic Education, which is in the process of transitioning activities to the Council due to the Council receiving international recognition with the Council on Chiropractic Education International and the Joint Education Committee of Participating Registration Boards, which formally ceased its operations on 31 October 2002.

## 2. Purpose of the Council

The Council shall advise and make recommendations relating to chiropractic accreditation, standards of education and practice.

## 3. Objects of the Council

The Objects of the Council are as follows:

- Assess and accredit chiropractic undergraduate and postgraduate courses;
- Advise and make recommendations regarding statutory accreditation, approval or prescription;
- Develop, advocate and maintain valid and reliable accreditation standards and processes to assess the suitability and quality of chiropractic programs and to judge the success of provider institutions in ongoing development, implementation and evaluation of those course goals and outcomes;
- Develop and conduct evaluations in relation to the suitability of overseas trained chiropractors for migration and practise in Australia;
- Develop and conduct competency assessments on behalf of Members and advise on the suitability of chiropractors, referred for assessment, to practise in Australasia;
- Advise and make recommendations in relation to chiropractic education and uniform approaches to Standards of Practice and regulation of chiropractors in Australasia;
- Establish and maintain relationships with bodies or organisations in other countries having objects and functions, in whole or in part, similar to the objects and functions of the Council; and
- Ensure that the Council achieves its purpose and objects.

## 4. Membership of the Council

The Council currently consists of the following Members:

- The Chiropractors and Osteopaths Board of the Australian Capital Territory;
- The Chiropractic Board of New Zealand;
- The Chiropractors and Osteopaths Board of the Northern Territory;
- The Chiropractors Board of Queensland;
- The Chiropractors Board of South Australia;
- The Chiropractors and Osteopaths Board of Tasmania;
- The Chiropractors Registration Board of Victoria;
- The Chiropractors Board of Western Australia;
- The Chiropractors Association of Australia; and

- The New Zealand Chiropractic Association;
- Two representatives of Australian and New Zealand chiropractic teaching institutions;
- Two persons who have an interest and expertise in chiropractic.

## 5. Councillors

Each Member has a nominated Councillor to represent it on the Council. The Term of Office of Councillors is at the discretion of their relevant nominating Member, however, where a Councillor is a representative of the chiropractic teaching institutions or a layperson, the Term of Office is for three years. Such Councillors may be re-appointed.

Current Councillors are as follows:

- Dr Phillip Donato (South Australia);
- Professor Peter Drake (Public Representative);
- Dr Katie Hallworth (Chiropractors and Osteopaths Board of the Northern Territory);
- Dr Ray Hayek (Macquarie University);
- Ms Maria Keys (Public Representative);
- Dr Tom Molyneux (Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology University);
- Dr Gregory Oke (New Zealand Chiropractors Association);
- Dr Bevan Goodreid (Chiropractors Board of Western Australia);
- Dr Stephen Crean (Chiropractors and Osteopaths Board of Tasmania);
- Dr Michael Shobbrook (Chiropractors and Osteopaths Board of the Australian Capital Territory);
- Dr Lawrence Tassell (Chiropractors Association of Australia);
- Dr John Waterhouse (Chiropractors Board of Victoria);
- Dr Julian White (New Zealand Chiropractic Board);
- Dr John Worrall (Chiropractors Board of Queensland).

The Council would like to extend its appreciation to outgoing Councillors Dr Robert Scott (Western Australia) and Dr Paul Searle (Tasmania). Their contributions to the establishment of the Council and their ongoing expertise will be surely missed.

The Chiropractors Board of New South Wales has pledged its support for, and willingness to join, the Council. The Council and New South Wales Board are currently undertaking negotiations with the New South Wales Health Administration Corporation in relation to the New South Wales Board's membership. The New South Wales Board has nominated its President, Dr Peter Cowie, as its representative during negotiations.

## 6. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee has been established to ensure the day to day activities of the Council are carried out in a timely manner. The following Councillors hold the stated positions on the Council:

- Dr Phillip Donato (Chairperson);
- Professor Peter Drake (Deputy Chairperson);
- Dr John Worrall (Treasurer);
- Dr Ray Hayek;
- Ms Maria Keys; and
- Dr Julian White.

## 7. Operating Committees

To ensure that the Council meets its Purpose and Objects, the following Committees have been established:

### Accreditation Committee

The Accreditation Committee has been established to oversee all Program Accreditation matters including inspection visits and ongoing monitoring. The Accreditation Committee consists of both Councillors and co-opted representatives who have an expertise in the area of chiropractic.

Current members are as follows:

- Ms Maria Keys (Chairperson);
  - Professor Peter Drake;
  - Dr Ray Hayek;
- and co-opted representatives
- Dr Peter Cowie;
  - Dr Jenny Jamison;
  - Dr John Loveday;
  - Dr Joanne Maire;
  - Dr Tom Molyneux; and
  - Dr John Sweaney.

Activities undertaken by the Committee can be found in Section 11 of this Report.

### Chiropractic Overseas Assessment Committee (COAC)

The Chiropractic Overseas Assessment Committee has been established to assess the suitability of chiropractors for migration to, and eligibility for registration in, Australia. Although the Council has New Zealand representation, the Council can not assess a chiropractor's eligibility to migrate to New Zealand. The COAC consists of both Councillors and co-opted representatives who have an expertise in the area of chiropractic assessment. Current members are as follows:

- Dr Phil Donato (Chairperson);
  - Dr John Reggars;
  - Dr Lawrence Tassell;
  - Dr Julian White;
  - Executive Officer;
- and co-opted representatives
- Dr Peter Bull; and
  - Mr Peter Martin.

Activities undertaken by the Committee can be found in Section 12 of this Report.

### Legal / Constitution Committee

The Legal / Constitution Committee has been established to ensure that Council's operations, including its Constitution and Rules, conform to all relevant laws. Current members are as follows:

- Dr Julian White - Chairperson;
- Ms Maria Keys;
- Dr Lawrence Tassell; and

- Dr John Worrall;  
and co-opted representative
- Dr Paul Searle.

Activities undertaken by the Committee can be found in Section 13 of this Report.

### **Standards of Practice Committee**

The Standards of Practice Committee has been established to provide advice and recommendations in relation to Standards of Practice for Australian and New Zealand chiropractors. Current members are as follows:

- Dr Michael Shobbrook (Chairperson);
- Dr Bevan Goodreid;
- Dr Stephen Crean; and
- Dr Julian White.

Activities undertaken by the Committee can be found in Section 14 of this Report.

### **Communication and Marketing Committee**

The Communication and Marketing Committee has been established to inform Members, the public and overseas counterparts of activities of the Council. Current members are as follows:

- Executive Committee; and
- Executive Officer.

### **Policy Committee**

The Policy Committee has been established to formulate and present to Council for adoption, Policies relevant to its operations. Current members are as follows:

- Dr Michael Shobbrook (Chairperson);
- Dr Katie Hallworth;
- Dr Julian White; and
- Executive Officer.

Activities undertaken by the Committee can be found in Section 14 of this Report.

## **8. Funding of the Council**

The Council receives funding from its Members, as well as limited funding from its responsibility to assess overseas trained chiropractors for migration and eligibility to practise. Funding is based on a formula contained within the Funding Agreement between the Council and its Members.

The Council is a non-profit association, and as such, all funding received is utilised for the Council's Purpose and Objects.

## **9. Meetings of the Council and its Committees**

### **Council**

During the reporting period, the Council held the following meetings:

- September 2005 in Darwin; and

- April 2006 in Sydney.

### *Executive Committee*

During the reporting period, the Executive Committee met by teleconference on the following occasions:

- September 2005; and
- February 2006.

The Executive Committee also held face to face meetings in conjunction with the above mentioned Council meetings.

### *Chiropractic Overseas Assessment Committee*

During the reporting period, the COAC met by teleconference on the following occasions:

- February 2006; and
- March 2006.

### *Accreditation Committee*

The Accreditation Committee met via teleconference on numerous occasions during the reporting period in relation to its activities as well as regular email communications.

### *Legal/Constitution Committee*

The Legal/Constitution Committee was not required to meet during the reporting period.

### *Standards of Practice Committee*

During the reporting period, the Standards of Practice Committee held one face to face meeting in Canberra and communicated via email regarding the drafting of relevant documentation.

### *Policy Committee*

During the reporting period, the Standards of Practice Committee held one face to face meeting in Canberra and communicated via email regarding the drafting of relevant documentation.

## **10. Activities of the Council**

During the reporting period, the Council and its Committees undertook the following activities:

- standardisation of competency assessments;
- revision of accreditation documentation;
- revision of assessment documentation for overseas trained chiropractors;
- continued dialogue with the New South Wales Health Administration Corporation regarding the membership of the Chiropractors Registration Board of New South Wales;
- was invited to provide both a written and verbal submission to the Joint Standing Committee of Migration;
- entered dialogue with the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners with respect to "off-shore" competency assessments.

### 11. Activities of the Accreditation Committee

During the reporting period, the Accreditation Committee received applications for assessment from the following institutions:

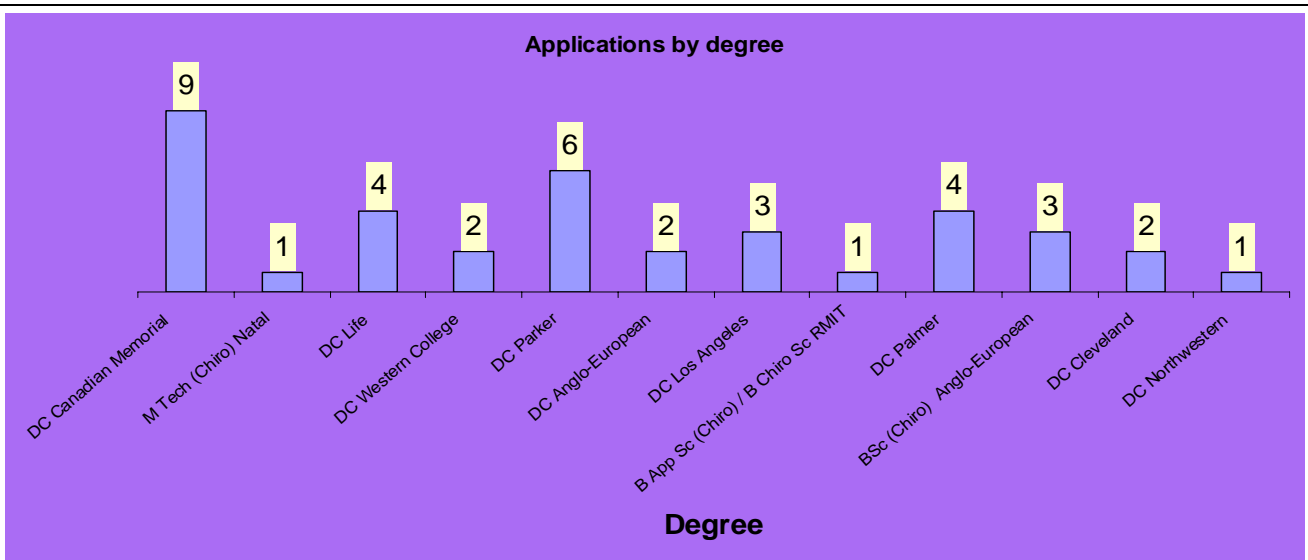
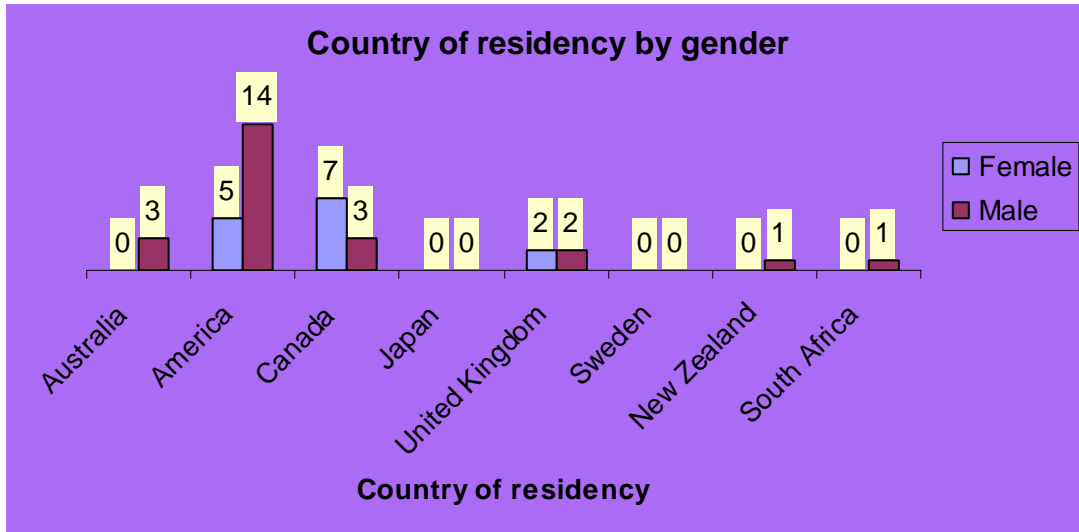
- Macquarie University, New South Wales; and
- Murdoch University, Western Australia; and
- The Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, Victoria.

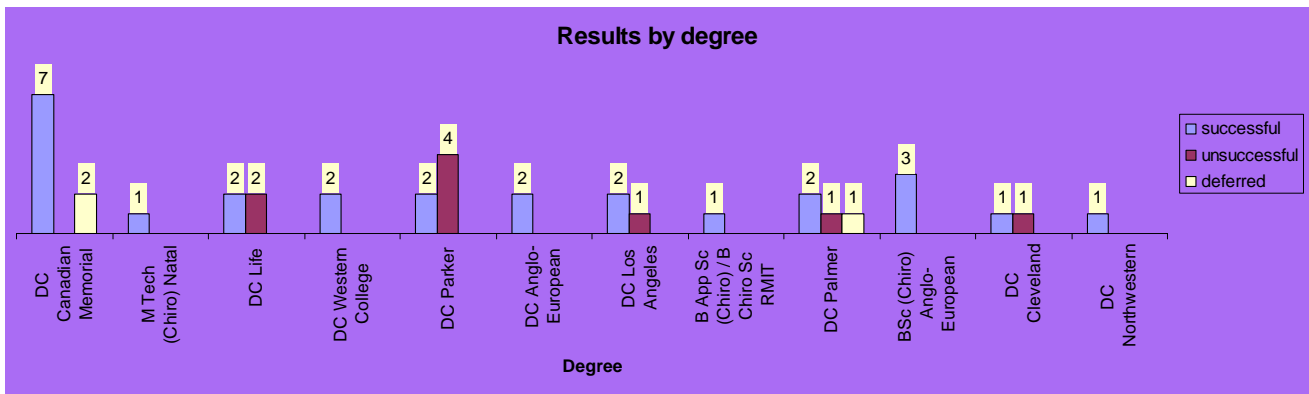
All of the above institutions were accepted as “applicant institutions”.

The Accreditation Committee has also been monitoring closely the progress of the New Zealand College of Chiropractic.

### 12. Activities of the Chiropractic Overseas Assessment Committee (COAC)

During the reporting period the COAC received 38 applications for assessment. Of these applications, all were approved to proceed to competency based assessment. The following graphs provide data in relation to the 38 applications received.





The COAC also undertook the following activities during the reporting period:

- held meetings with assessing institutions to standardise the format and content of assessments;
- reviewed and updated its Candidate Guide and Application Forms; and
- entered into dialogue with the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners, USA to determine the feasibility of CCEA assessments being undertaken in America.

### 13. Activities of the Legal / Constitution Committee

During the reporting period the Legal/Constitution Committee continued to monitor Council's legal and constitutional compliance.

### 14. Activities of the Standards of Practice Committee

During the reporting period the Standards of Practice Committee commenced drafting a Principles of Practice document which will be considered at Council's September 2006 meeting.

### 15. Activities of the Policy Committee

During the reporting period the Policy Committee reviewed all Council Policies and drafted the following new Policies to be considered at Council's September 2006 meeting:

- Confidentiality;
- Honorary Fellowships.

### 16. Representation on the Council on Chiropractic Education International

Dr Donato and Professor Drake represented Council at the June 2006 CCEI meeting held in Maui, USA. During this meeting the following issues were discussed:

- Model Core Standards;
- Relationships with the World Health Organisation and World Federation of Chiropractic;
- Member agency Standards; and
- Mutual recognition of Member accreditations.

Dr Donato and Professor Drake also participated in CCEI teleconferences during the reporting period.

## **17. Council Staff**

The Council, during the reporting period, utilised the services of one staff member, Mrs Debby Ramsay, who was appointed as the Executive Officer in May 2003. Mrs Ramsay acted as Secretary for the Council during its formation stages and Acting Executive Officer from August 2002 until her appointment in May 2003.

Council's Accreditation Committee utilised the services of Ms Priscilla Todd, Todd Secretariat, to assist with its functions and business.

## **18. Financial Statements**

The Council has again retained the services of Bentleys MRI, Brisbane, as its external Auditors. Following is a copy of the Council's audited financial statements for the reporting period.