



## **ANNUAL REPORTS: 2015 and 2016**

Accreditation Commission for Homeopathic Education in North America

### **Overview of Major Accomplishments:**

1. ACHENA completed the review and revision of the ACHENA Accreditation Manual, including public comments and feedback from the larger community to include Distance Learning Only schools and programs to be eligible for accreditation.
2. ACHENA completed the ACHENA Self-Study Guide as a resource for schools entering into the Self-Study process.
3. ACHENA completed the first full year of implementation of the ACHENA Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Program, with the careful review and approval of continuing education courses to support the professional growth of the practicing homeopath.
4. ACHENA welcomed eight new commissioners and experienced the successful passing of leadership in the President's role. Also elected a Vice President and created a paid staff position.
5. ACHENA continued its membership in several important national organizations including the Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors, the Academic Consortium for Complementary and Alternative Health Care and the Homeopathic Action Alliance.
6. ACHENA carried forward its mission to uphold homeopathic educational standards by granting Candidacy Status to four schools and programs and granted Accreditation to one new program.
7. ACHENA completed final negotiations with the Council for Homeopathic Certification (the agency granting certification to homeopathic practitioners) on a timeline requiring all certification candidates to have graduated from ACHENA-accredited homeopathic schools.

## **Details of ACHENA Accomplishments:**

### **Review and revision of the ACHENA Accreditation Manual, including public comments and feedback from the larger community to include Distance Learning Only schools and programs to be eligible for accreditation:**

ACHENA conducted a comprehensive review of its 2012 Accreditation Manual. Revisions were made throughout and an updated 2015 Accreditation Manual was issued. Existing standards were revised and additional language was added to ensure schools offering blended learning and distance learning only programs have policies and procedures in place to maximize use of distance learning technology to provide clinical mentoring and assess student clinical skills.

**ACHENA Self-Study Guide:** ACHENA created the Self-Study Guide to be sufficiently flexible to accommodate any schools/programs seeking accreditation or re-accreditation status with ACHENA. This guide seeks to: (1) assist programs in developing an effective plan for school/program improvement while documenting compliance with ACHENA standards; (2) facilitate the preparation of the Self-Study Report; and (3) aid the school/program in its preparation for a team visit. The guide is intended to help a program or school's self-study process focus upon all the standards and criteria for accreditation which is the basis for the ACHENA's assessment.

### **Implementation of the ACHENA Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Program:**

Working to support the homeopathic community and make available high-quality continuing education courses for professional homeopaths, ACHENA entered into careful review and approval of over 230 continuing education hours consistent with the requirements of the Council for Homeopathic Certification.

### **Negotiations with the Council for Homeopathic Certification:**

It was essential for the accreditation process overseeing homeopathic education that candidates writing the certification exam be required to have graduated from homeopathic schools accredited by ACHENA. The two organizations (ACHENA and the Council) completed a final agreement on this as well as a provisional timeline to ease students and exam candidates into this process, with full implementation planned for January, 2018.

For more information about ACHENA and its activities, visit the ACHENA website at:

[www.achena.org](http://www.achena.org)

