



ACE Committee discussion runs the gamut

A full plate of topics occupied the ACE Committee meeting on July 18-20 in Alexandria, Va.



The Approved Continuing Education (ACE) Committee, from left to right: (back row) Alison MacDonald (SK); Anwar Najor-Durack (MI), ACE Committee chair; Elaine Halsell (BC); Marcia Heitz (IL); Donna Ennis (MN); (front row) Joan Davis-Whelan (NL); Micki Lilly (NC); Jan Fitts (NE); Ellen Costilla (NM).

Process changes, key policy considerations, and provider issues dominated the slate of topics discussed at the July meeting of the Approved Continuing Education (ACE) Committee meeting. Here are some highlights:

- The committee engaged in a vigorous discussion of characteristics of high-quality social work ethics courses versus high-quality professional ethics courses.
- The roles and tasks of the ACE provider's social work consultant were reviewed and discussed.
- The committee members responded to an inquiry from an ACE provider related to requirements for evaluating Grand Rounds continuing education.
- An ACE subcommittee is developing a report about continuing competence issues, researched from the growing body of knowledge about the topic.
- Committee members discussed feedback from ACE providers related to the ACE requirement for pilot testing distance learning courses.
- Many changes to expedite the ACE application

process, renewal, and audit procedures were reviewed.

- The ACE Committee agreed to offer consultation on any policy issues that may arise concerning ASWB's new role as a CE course approval entity for the State of New Jersey.

Also occupying the attention of the committee were a report from ASWB staff on the revisions to the laws and regulations database, as well as a mentoring session on best practices in using Dropbox for review of materials and for posting comments.

The July meeting was the second of two in-person meetings held by the ACE Committee this year. The committee will continue its work by teleconference, scheduled for Sept. 24, Oct. 15, and Nov. 19.

Volunteer members of the 2014 ACE Committee are: Anwar Najor-Durack of Michigan, chair; Ellen Costilla of New Mexico; Joan Davis-Whelan of Newfoundland and Labrador; Donna Ennis of Minnesota; Jan Fitts of Nebraska; Elaine Halsall of British Columbia; Marcia Heitz of Illinois; Micki Lilly of North Carolina; Alison MacDonald of Saskatchewan; and John McBride of Louisiana, serving as Board liaison.