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Task Forces Augment PCRf's Role

Since its inception the Prehospital Care Research Forum has pursued its mission and goals through the efforts of various committees. Recently the Board agreed to establish three supplement groups or "task forces" to enable us to broaden our impact in the EMS community. Associates of the Research Forum were invited to participate on the Task Force of their choice in addition to their committee responsibilities.

"Community Peer Review" was created to explore the possibility of PCRf participating as peer reviewers for funding agencies such as EMSC, which conduct research, and also help determine how they select their research projects.

"Research as a Standard" hopes to encourage CAAS, CAAMS and like organizations to include research as a component of accreditation. In addition PCRf would like to explore the possibility of determining a "research officer" and help to establish guidelines.

"Research in the Classroom" will work to develop a list of education programs to include one-day workshops, research modules, books, CD's, or other tools to increase inclusion of research in the classroom.

Board members serve as liaisons to the various Task Force leaders, who work directly with their groups of four or five people. This teamwork has proven to be an effective way to communicate the status of the individual groups to the Board, thus enabling feedback and recommendations. As each Task Force reaches their goal, a new goal will be determined, and Associates of the Research Forum will be invited to participate.

The Research Forum continues to rely on the hard work of each committee member. While the committee goals are somewhat more long-term than those of the Task Forces, both approaches are important to further our contribution in the EMS community. Thank you to everyone who has made a commitment to serve on a Task Force. We hope as new goals are designed that all Associates of the Research Forum will consider participating.

Inside The Forum News...

- Presentations at EMS Today
- Call for Abstracts
- PCRf Welcomes New Board Member
- Meet Our Partners

Meet Our Partners

By Edith Pryor, Managing Director, PCRF

PCRf's success would not be possible without the ongoing support of our many generous Partners. Check here over the next several issues of The Forum News as we highlight these fine organizations.

Located 25 miles north of Los Angeles in beautiful Sun Valley, California, SSCOR, Inc., was founded in 1980 to provide portable suction for emergency medical procedures in the hospital and pre-hospital setting. I had the pleasure to meet recently with Sam Say, President, and Scott Eamer, Product Manager, for conversation and a tour of their facility. SSCOR, Inc. has been a PCRf Partner for six years, and Scott has served as an Associate for nearly five years.

The goal of my visit was to bring Sam and Scott up to speed on PCRf activities as well as learning as much as possible about their operation. Sam explained that since 1980, the SSCOR line has grown from one suction pump to a full line of portable, battery powered suction units and ambulance vacuum systems. The day we meet I was introduced to several of their staff, and observed a team of about 14 workers, a modest operation that produces much of the suction equipment in use today.

I was happy to be able to provide Sam and Scott with updates on our current Associate base, our Call for Abstracts, the status of our Task Forces, as well as some of the details on our 10 Year Anniversary celebration planned for the 2002 EMS Today Convention and Exposition in March. It was a great meeting and a real pleasure to personally meet the SSCOR team!

"I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work."

Thomas Alva Edison (1847-1931)

PCRf to Host 10 Year Anniversary Reception

In celebration of 10 years of service, PCRf will host a reception during EMS Today in the Poster Presentation area on Thursday, March 14, from 4:30pm-5:30pm. Please join us for refreshments and an opportunity to view this year's exceptional posters. We look forward to seeing you there!

EMS TODAY

The Oral Presenters Luncheon will take place from 12:00pm-1:30pm on Day 1 of the EMS Today Conference to be held March 12-16, 2002. Hear the authors of abstracts selected as most notable present their research, and enjoy a complimentary lunch co-sponsored by Laerdal Medical Corp. and Medtronic Physio-Control Corp. Be sure to sign up early, as the event always fills quickly.

Posters selected as most outstanding in the Prehospital Care Research Forum 2002 Call for Abstracts will be on display throughout the conference. Presenters will be available to discuss their research and answer your questions from 4:30pm-5:30pm on Day 1, and again on Day 2 from 10:00am-11:30am. We hope that you will take a few minutes to visit the Poster Presentation area during the conference and congratulate the authors.

The Prehospital Care Research Forum

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Research Forum Welcomes New Board Member

In September 2001 Todd LeGassick announced his decision to step down as Managing Director of the Prehospital Care Research Forum, a position he held for nearly ten years. Todd had been responsible for many of the operations that have helped to raise PCRf's profile in the industry including cultivating relationships with other EMS organization and contractual agreements, in addition to working closely with the Board on many projects. Fortunately for PCRf, Todd has accepted the Board of Advisors' invitation to continue to serve PCRf as a Board member.

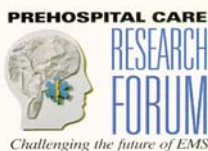
The Board of Advisors invited Edith Pryor to take on a more significant role with the organization as the Research Forum's new

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An Introduction to EMS Research Now Available

Long-time PCRf Board members Liz Criss, RN, CEN, MEd, and Lawrence Brown, EMT-P, along with N. Heramba Prasad, MD, FACEP, have recently introduced their collaborative effort, *An Introduction to EMS Research*. Designed as a supplement to any research course or workshop, this 200 page soft-cover book addresses a wide range of topics such as *Why Do We Need EMS Research?* and *Implementing the Study and Collecting Data*. It also serves as a resource guide for anyone looking for a refresher on the basics.

Available through Brady, this affordable text is a must-have for any EMS library.



Prehospital Care Research Forum 2002 Call for Abstracts in Education

The Prehospital Care Research Forum is currently accepting abstracts in the category of education for presentation at the National Association of EMS Educators Conference in Portland, Ore., Sept. 4-7, 2002. (The Prehospital Care Research Forum 2002 Call for Abstracts in the categories of clinical, systems, management and personnel for presentation at EMS Today in Kansas City, Mo., March 12-16, 2002 closed October 26, 2001. The 2003 Call for Abstracts in these categories is now open.)

All submissions will be evaluated and ranked according to a peer review process by experts in prehospital emergency medicine. Authors of those studies representing the most original scientifically based work of greatest impact to prehospital emergency medicine will be invited to present their material during the conference. Submissions not selected for oral presentation will be considered for poster presentation or publication in *Prehospital Emergency Care*, the official journal of NAEMSE.

For more information on this exciting event contact the Prehospital Care Research Forum at (310) 794-8798, 924 Westwood Blvd., Suite 720, Los Angeles, CA 90095, or visit our Web site at www.pcrf.mednet.ucla.edu.

For more information about the Prehospital Care Research Forum
visit our web site at www.pcrf.mednet.ucla.edu

It's just a hop, skip and a jump until.....



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Board Member

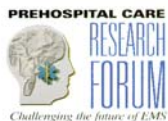
(Continued from page 3)

Managing Director. Edith has worked with the UCLA Center for Prehospital Care and the Prehospital Care Research Forum for nearly five years.

In her new position Edith will oversee administration, further develop marketing strategies for PCRf, and work together with the Board and Associates. While Edith will continue to split her time between the two organizations, many of her duties with the Center for Prehospital Care have been reassigned internally enabling her to dedicate more of her energies to PCRf. We wish Edith and Todd great success!

"Make everything as simple as possible, but not simpler."

- Albert Einstein (1879-1955)



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