



Summer 2021

NUCCA NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL UPPER CERVICAL CHIROPRACTIC ASSOCIATION - NUCCA

President's Letter

As the world reopens in the months to come, I think we can reflect with a positive perspective on the adapting we were able to do as an organization during the last year. With the launch of an updated website and continued SEO optimization, more people can find our member doctors with greater ease. We have initiated a new Ombud's process to ensure proper channels for resolution of member conflicts or concerns, and Collegiality continues to host our Settleback Sessions and Ambassador Mentoring which offer us the ability to connect remotely between conferences for support and camaraderie.

We were able to have two fully online events that grew in offerings from 14 CE to 42 CE between the Spring and Fall of 2020. In 2021, California fortuitously was opened just in time for our Spring 2021 Conference. Fortunately, we had prepared options that allowed many to meet and learn live and in-person once

again. Simultaneously, for those that chose not to or were restricted from travelling due to being in less flexible jurisdictions, we were able to present a remote option that allowed for the connection and learning to be available for more than a month.

We have had two successful online Annual Business Meetings allowing us to keep the corporation of NUCCA in good standing and go about the important business of electing directors. The Board of Directors welcomed Dr. Julia Radwanski in 2020 and Dr. Barbara Read in 2021 for a modified and regular two-year term, respectively. These wonderful NUCCA doctors have already shown their capability to contribute, and they have big shoes to fill as we thank Dr. Johanna Hoeller and Dr. Trish Gregg for their many years of dedicated service to our organization.

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National Upper Cervical
Chiropractic Association

www.nucca.org

PRESIDENT'S Letter / cont. from page 1

Your board of directors has begun to evolve the way we present our educational materials. Drs. Radwanski and Flory, along with their dedicated team, have brought our textbook fully online as of our Spring 2021 Conference. You can access the digital textbook through the website with your personal access code; please reach out to our executive team if you need assistance. With Regional Workshops able to deliver local hands-on training, and our newly developed online capacity, it is also time for our semiannual conferences to shift towards more agile clinical and educational offerings. We maintain our commitment to teaching the fundamentals but through a hybrid (on-line/live) conference model; Drs. Packer and Yardley and the Education Committee are committed to delivering on-demand material so learning can be delivered in new ways and with innovative approaches.



While we continue to move forward developing and optimizing our organization, education, and procedures, we also remember our past. In this, the first half of 2021, we lost two stalwart NUCCA stewards – Dr. Bob Neff and Dr. Bob Brooks.

Both were ubiquitously present within the NUCCA experience for many of us. They will be deeply missed, and we wish their loved ones the grace of knowing their tremendous contributions were recognized and deeply valued by their colleagues. We wish them peace in their rest.

In news of the challenge to chiropractors in British Columbia, our colleagues battle against the divisive actions of their chiropractic regulatory body (CCBC). May 31, 2021 was the date of the hearing for the injunction filed with Dr. Melody Jesson as plaintiff. NUCCA chiropractors Dr. Jessen and Dr. Shawn Thomas are on retainer with the lawyer representing the interests of a wide range of BC chiropractors. The removal of image-guided biomechanical consideration from the capability of chiropractors in their jurisdiction limits their public to more simplistic manual procedures. NUCCA has provided support to this dispute against the fringe perspective of the CCBC to help defend the rights of patients who would ultimately pay the price for this decision. The wasteful warring brought on by the actions of the CCBC will hopefully serve to create clarity within our profession.

At the very least, it has already amplified the sense of urgency for us to continue the necessary work to validate our procedures empirically, as well as for chiropractic researchers to continue to recognize and enhance the clinical applicability of their investigations.

To inform on this topic further, evidence-based care involves a triad of constituent components. As described in *The BMJ*, Volume 312 in 1996 by Sackett, "it requires a bottom up approach that integrates the best external evidence with individual clinical expertise and patients' choice." This triad begins with the objectives and perspective of the presenting patient looking to make a choice regarding care. As a patient presents for evaluation, the clinician then applies their best judgement (clinical expertise) as to the appropriateness of patient acceptance, and then the literature is consulted for further direction or guidance (best external evidence). This order of operations is necessary, as the agreement for the delivery of health care services is personalized based on the unique characteristics of the individual participants. Clearly, a cohort of an empirical study can never be applied fully to an individual due to the heterogeneity inherent in our patient population. As you move from a single practitioner or unidisciplinary, through multidisciplinary to interdisciplinary, the importance of this personalized approach becomes even more important as the patient-centric model of care is considered. The highly skilled clinical encounter is intended to work in this manner and involves many constituent components such as the elements of a personalized informed consent as well as a rationale for patient acceptance.

The use of ionizing radiation will always be one of risks versus benefit, and NUCCA has always abided by the ALARA radiographic guidelines. Since the beginning of NUCCA, we have sought to reduce radiographic exposure using assessment devices such as the Anatometer. Non-adaptive, objective neurological findings are a hallmark of our work and always precede radiographic evaluation. Due to the complexity of the biomechanics inherent to the craniocervical junction, our initial intervention is based on normal mathematic considerations, and this typically gets us close to the correct vector for that patient. However, our intraprocedural radiographic analysis is what allows us to confirm the reduction towards normal of the constituent components of the misalignment.

PRESIDENT'S Letter / cont. from page 2

As all of us that do this work recognize that a reduction of misalignment factors proportionately and maximally is not the foregone conclusion. Our procedures therefore most importantly allow us to customize and personalize future interventions based on the response of the patient to the vector selection. We recognize that in most cases, to provide a corrective intervention, the heterogenous nature of the human being demands the specificity that is achieved through our procedures. I reject any characterization that our Standards of Practice for the application of ionizing radiation are routine or repeat. Through this specificity, we can deliver an intervention, when deemed appropriate, that is both safe and effective.

Thank you each for your contribution; a more engaged membership makes for a stronger NUCCA. We have work to do, and we look forward to seeing you at our Fall Conference November 11 – 13, 2021 at the Hilton Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport.

In the meantime, do good things, and take care of each other.



Dr. Jeff Scholten

President, NUCCA Board of Directors

2021-2022 NUCCA Board of Directors

NUCCA held its 2021 Annual Member Meeting on Friday, April 9th where our membership body voted on one open seat on our Board of Directors.

- Dr. Jeffrey Scholten, President
- Dr. Tym Flory, Vice President
- Dr. Julia Radwanski, Treasurer
- Dr. Michael Zabelin, Secretary
- Dr. Marshall Dickholtz Jr.
- Dr. Ben Kuhn
- Dr. Craig Lapenski
- Dr. David Packer
- Dr. Barbara Read
- Dr. Kurt Sherwood
- Dr. Lee Yardley

Welcome, **Dr. Barbara Read!**

Meet our newest board member, Dr. Barbara Read! Dr. Read has shown immense dedication and support to NUCCA over the years as a certified instructor helping members through the certification process, an Education and Certification & Standards committee member, and as a Regional Workshop and Conference instructor. We are thrilled to welcome her to the NUCCA Board of Directors!



THANK YOU Dr. Gregg!

NUCCA wishes to thank Dr. Patricia Gregg for her many years of service on the NUCCA Board of Directors, particularly her dedication to the role of Treasurer. Her volunteerism and support of NUCCA will continue as a newly inducted Ambassador and member of our new Ombuds Committee. Be sure to thank Dr. Gregg for her service at our next in-person event!



NUCCA 2021 FALL CONFERENCE – Save The Date!

Join us for our 2021 Fall Conference

November 11-13 / Minneapolis, MN

While we know many of our members are planning to attend in-person, we want to continue providing accessibility to those unable to travel. NUCCA plans to continue offering a virtual component while increasing the hands-on learning, breakout style classes we can offer now that we can meet again in-person. We hope to see you this Fall!



SUMMER INDUSTRY EVENTS – Mark Your Calendars!

As part of the Upper Cervical Chiropractic industry, we want to highlight some additional events might interest our members. Take a look at these conferences, courses, and seminars happening – many involving some of our very own docs!

August 6-8, 2021:

LifeWest's WAVE Conference
(hosted by LifeWest
Chiropractic College)



After the success of last year's live & on-demand speaker schedule, LifeWest's WAVE team is excited to offer a similar format for WAVE 2021. You can choose to attend live, watch live online or attend speaker sessions at your own pace & on-demand. While they're still finalizing the full speaker lineup, you can expect a similar mix to prior year events, which typically include 20+ speakers and up to 20 CE hours*.

[Click here](#) to view more details about the event and to register.

[Click here](#) to view The Wave highlight reel.

August 13-14, 2021:

ICA (International
Chiropractors Association)
Upper Cervical Conference
(hosted by ICA in Nashville, TN)



The ICA will be hosting their next Upper Cervical Conference with lectures focusing on advanced imaging, thermography, advanced case management, and several other topics – plus six research paper presentations.

[Click here](#) for more details on the event!

August 21 – 22, 2021:

Neurology Essentials for
the Upper Cervical
Chiropractor (Presented
by Carrick Institute)



Hosted by NUCCA member Dr. Jonathan Chung!

Topics Covered:

- This 2-day primer will provide an introductory overview of functional neurology that can be quickly implemented into an upper cervical chiropractic practice.
- Contemporary views of upper cervical neurology
- Sensorimotor evaluation of the cervical spine
- Overview of the visual, vestibular, and proprioceptive systems
- Introduction to the functional neurology paradigm
- Overview of key brain regions in functional neurology
- Examination and assessment of key brain regions
- Utilizing functional neurology to evaluate patient outcomes
- Therapeutic options for neuro-rehabilitation of key brain regions
- Patient management utilizing upper cervical care and functional neurology
- Developing treatment plans within a functional neurology paradigm

[Click here](#) to learn more about the event.

[Click here](#) to hear Dr. Jon Chung speak on the program!

2021 GREGORY CIRCLE Members

Gregory Circle Junior Bronze

- Jonathan Chung
- Natalie Dabrowny
- Christopher Dawson
- Stanley Dombroski
- Donald Erwin
- Vince Fitzpatrick
- Michael Foran
- Patricia Gregg
- Shawn L Hall
- Scott Hansen
- Gordon Hasick
- Jeff Hedrich
- Johanna Hoeller
- Daiki Ishiyama
- Kyrie Kleinfelter
- Jordan Landholm
- Terry McCoskey
- Jim Moore
- Barbara K. Read

- Finley Sesker
- Jack Stockwell
- Gary Thomson
- Marcella Ziska

Gregory Circle Bronze

- Valeri Briski
- Justin Brown
- Tymothy Flory
- Greg Goffe
- Jason Granger
- Phil Kanwischer
- Patrick Lin
- Steven MacDonald
- Aurora Ongaro
- Reanna Plancich
- Julia Radwanski
- Jeffrey Scholten
- Kurt Sherwood
- Jayson Snyder

Gregory Circle Senior Bronze

- Bradley Kennedy
- Michael Russamano
- Shawn Thomas

Gregory Circle Junior Silver

- Philip Arnone
- Jamie Cramer
- Keith Denton
- Jacob Dodds
- Lauren Dodds
- Craig Lapenski
- Ashleigh Street
- Lee Yardley

Gregory Circle Silver

- Kerry Johnson
- Blair Schmaus
- Benjamin Kuhn

NUCCA CERTIFICATION Update

The NUCCA Certification Program is an integral part of Chiropractic education, training, and development. Becoming proficient in all aspects of x-ray positioning, x-ray analysis, biomechanics, patient evaluation, set up, and adjusting are essential to the reduction of the Atlas Subluxation Complex. Many of our members are currently in the process of their NUCCA certification, and we want to highlight those that have made advancements in the last quarter.

Congrats to the following doctors for advancing in their process towards NUCCA certification:

Dr. Corey Burt – Level II Candidate

Dr. Joshua Stehmeier – Level II Candidate

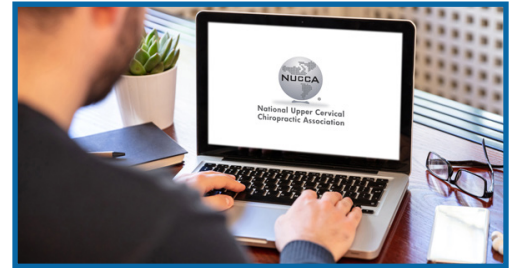
Want to learn more about certification and how to get started? [Click here!](#)

SPRING 2021 Virtual Career Fair

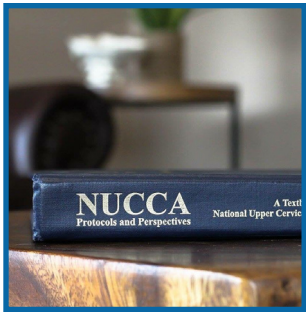
Calling all students, recent graduates, and young professionals! Seeking an associateship, preceptorship, or joining a booming practice?

NUCCA's Virtual Career Fair is still live! As part of our Spring 2021 Conference, we have 10 doctors currently promoting openings in their practices.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the participating doctors and to view the short videos detailing the open positions available at their practice.



NUCCA ONLINE TEXTBOOK Update



Our online textbook is live!

A huge thank you to Drs. Julia Radwanski & Tym Flory, along with many volunteer editors & proofreaders who worked hard to launch this online member benefit in time for our Spring 2021 Conference.

Haven't had a chance to view the online textbook? [Sign up here!](#)

This is an exclusive NUCCA Member Benefit and the webpage is password protected. Once you sign up via the link above, you will be emailed access details. Please reach out to info@nucca.org if you have any issues.

OMBUDS Committee

NUCCA has created a formal committee established to provide an accessible and independent mechanism for addressing disputes or complaints respectfully and constructively for the members of NUCCA. With a focus on fairness, equity and respect, the Ombuds Committee, being clearly and visibly independent, builds the capacity to help NUCCA be accountable to its Code of Conduct and Mission Statement.

If you ever have an issue to report, you can view the Ombuds Committee page on the NUCCA website to access a form. All submissions will be sent directly to the Chair(s) of the Committee and to no other individuals.

[Click here](#) to view the new Ombuds Committee page.