



May/June 2015

Quick Links

[NCTRC Home](#)

[My NCTRC Login](#)

[NCTRC Recent News](#)

[CTRS Renewal](#)

[Standards and Publications](#)

[NCTRC Board](#)

[Contact NCTRC](#)

National Council For Therapeutic Recreation Certification

845.639.1439

nctrc@nctrc.org

www.nctrc.org

Welcome to NCTRC e-News!

NCTRC Announces New Executive Director

NCTRC is pleased to announce the appointment of **Anne Richard, MS, LRT/CTRS** as the new NCTRC Executive Director.

At the April 2015 NCTRC Board meeting, the Board voted to approve the selection of Ms. Anne Richard as the next Executive Director of NCTRC. Anne comes to this position with vast RT practice and leadership experience in settings including behavioral health, acute hospital care, both skilled nursing and assisted living with geriatrics and as an educator in RT academic programs. She has also been actively involved professionally and holds NCTRC Specialty Certification in Gerontology. In her roles as educator, consultant, clinical specialist, director, therapist, internship supervisor and manager, Anne has gained valuable skills that will continue the tradition of excellence at NCTRC. Please join the Board of Directors in welcoming Anne as she begins her position on August 1, 2015.

NCTRC Conducts Annual Board Meeting

The NCTRC Board of Directors conducted its annual meeting on April 23-24, 2015 in Newburgh, NY. Among the many accomplishments realized during the two-day meeting were the following:

- Two new members were inducted to the NCTRC Board of Directors for 2015-2018 term:
 - Wayne Pollock, CTRS (VA)
 - Diane Wagner-Heffner, CTRS (MI)
- Duane Jensen was re-appointed as Consumer Representative to the NCTRC Board of Directors for the 2015-2018 term
- A new Executive Committee for the term of 2015-2016 was elected:
 - Jennifer Hinton, LRT/CTRS (NC), Chairperson
 - Eileen Andreassi, CTRS (NY), Vice Chairperson
 - Wayne Pollock, CTRS (VA), Treasurer
 - Donna Gregory, CTRS (MD), Secretary
- Two new members were appointed to NCTRC Standing Committees:
 - Cecilia Rider, CTRS (GA): Standards Hearing Committee
 - Deborah Tiger, CTRS (IL): Exam Management Committee
- Andrea Waters, CTRS (Canada) was re-appointed to the Standards Review Committee

The Board approved conducting the NCTRC Annual Certificants Meeting at the ATRA Annual Conference to be held in Albuquerque, NM, September 26-30, 2015.

Jennifer Hinton, LRT/CTRS Elected NCTRC Chairperson

Jennifer Hinton was installed as the new Chairperson of the NCTRC Board of Directors at the

recently held NCTRC Annual Meeting. Jennifer brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the Chair position. Jennifer completed her Bachelor of Science degree in Recreation and Leisure Studies with an emphasis in Therapeutic Recreation from Kent State University and a Master of Science degree in Recreation and Park Administration with an emphasis in Outdoor Therapeutic Recreation from Indiana University. She holds a PhD in Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Management with an emphasis in Recreation Therapy from Clemson University. Jennifer is currently employed as Associate Professor and Director of the Recreational Therapy degree program at Western Carolina University. Her primary responsibility, along with her colleagues, is to ensure excellent educational opportunities for the approximately 80 majors and 100 pre-majors in the undergraduate program. This includes teaching courses, structuring curricula, and providing service to persons with disabilities and other professionals in the region- including co-leading a weekly Social Skills group for adolescents on the Autism Spectrum- and to the University at large, and the profession. Jennifer is deeply committed to engaging in scholarly activity including research and presentations.

NCTRC Expands Continuing Education Pre-approval Options

In addition to the current continuing education pre-approval program offered in conjunction with the American Therapeutic Recreation Association (ATRA), the NCTRC Board recently approved two new options for CTRSs to complete pre-approved continuing education offerings for recertification.

The first option provides for advanced approval of professionally sponsored continuing education programs offered by therapeutic recreation (TR) organizations and non-TR organizations. This option will permit organizations that have an identified CE provider who follows the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET) guidelines to gain direct pre-approval from NCTRC for professionally sponsored continuing education opportunities.

The second option is an expansion of the existing NCTRC Pre-application Continuing Education Approval Process which will now assist certificants to obtain approval for both pending and/or completed continuing education prior to the submission of a recertification application. This process will allow for formal confirmation of continuing education to certificants who are not certain if specific continuing education opportunities will meet NCTRC recertification requirements. This process is available to all current CTRSs and can be utilized at any time during the five-year certification cycle. Information and applications for both new CE pre-approval options are now available from NCTRC.

NCTRC Item Writing Opportunity: Earn CE Credits!

NCTRC is seeking qualified candidates to write potential questions (items) for the certification exam. Individuals who are selected for the item writing process will be able to earn up to 10 Continuing Education credits (1 CE hour for each approved item).

The item writing process requires the involvement of knowledgeable and experienced Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialists. NCTRC is seeking CTRSs who represent the diversity of RT service settings and populations and who are willing to advance the profession by sharing their knowledge by writing items representing entry-level knowledge needed by recreation therapists for competent practice. Prior experience/expertise with writing exam questions is not needed as Prometric, with the assistance of NCTRC, will train all individuals who are selected to participate in this process. The selection criteria for the 2015 Item Writing Committee are as follows:

- Minimum of (3) three years employment providing TR Services
- Professional involvement during the recent past (3) three years
- Possess a valid email address and access to email
- Actively certified as a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS)

If you are interested in participating in the item writing process, please contact [Noelle Molloy](#), Credentialing Specialist, at 845-639-1439.

Item writing training will take place via conference call (July 8 or 16) with the actual writing occurring during the month of August.

NCTRC-ATRA-CTRA Marketing Initiative

Representative leadership from the American Therapeutic Recreation Association (ATRA), Canadian Therapeutic Recreation Association (CTRA), and the National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification (NCTRC) meet quarterly on a liaison conference call to share information and coordinate organizational strategies. Most recently the group agreed to explore opportunities for collaborative marketing to promote the CTRS credential and advance the profession. The discussion resulted in the development of a marketing presentation delivered by the leaders of the three professional organizations. The initial presentation served as a general session at the ATRA Mid-Year Conference in March 2015. A follow-up session was presented at the CTRA Annual Conference held in May 2015 in St. John's, NL. Future plans call for the development and design of marketing materials to promote the profession to individuals interested in RT as a possible career and who need specific information about the role of CTRSs and the delivery of recreational therapy services. The three organizations are committed to establishing common terminology that defines the nature and scope of the profession and the role of the CTRS in practice settings.

NCTRC Attends CTRA Annual Conference

In the continuing effort to nurture its international focus, NCTRC attended the Canadian Therapeutic Recreation Association Annual Conference in St. John's, Newfoundland, May 13-15. NCTRC sponsored an exhibit booth, presented three educational sessions, and conducted a CTRS certificants meeting. NCTRC and CTRA continue to collaborate on an active basis to expand the CTRS credential throughout Canada. These strategic efforts have been very successful and resulted in a 100% increase in the number of CTRSs residing in Canada as measured during the past three years. There are now approximately 500 CTRSs residing in Canada.

Did you know ...

- NCTRC has an email contact service for the notification of CEU opportunities and research so please keep your email up-to-date with us
- NCTRC provides free marketing materials to promote the CTRS credential
- NCTRC provides pre-application review of CEU materials that have been completed for CTRS recertification

Please contact NCTRC at 845-639-1439 or nctrc@nctrc.org if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your continued support of NCTRC and the CTRS credential.