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program, providing support and technical assistance for the beneficiary board members of Medicare Quality Improvement Organizations (QIO).

Commissioner Klug has worked as a trainer, writer and volunteer program manager for more than 25 years. He began his career as a consultant trainer for AARP's Medicare-Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAAP) and later joined AARP's staff, working at its headquarters in Washington, D.C. and at regional and state offices in Kansas City. He received his B.A. degree from St. Louis University in 1977 and is a 1984 graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School in Madison, Wisconsin. He lives in Iowa City, Iowa. ■

### *NCCAOM® Calendar of Upcoming Events*

#### **NCCAOM Exhibit Booths:**

- Integrative Medicine and Health Conference in Portland, Oregon (**May 15-18, 2012**)

#### **NCCAOM Webinars:**

- NCCAOM Student Webinar (**May 2012**)
- NCCAOM Professional Development Activity Provider Webinar (**July 2012**)
- NCCAOM State Regulatory Webinar (**September 2012**)
- NCCAOM Diplomate Webinar (**October 2012**)

## *Catching up with Past NCCAOM® Chair* **Malvin Finkelstein**



The first former NCCAOM Commissioner that we are featuring is Malvin Finkelstein, O.M.D, Dipl. O.M. (NCCAOM), L.Ac., who served on the NCCAOM Board during a transitional time from 1989 to 1998. During his tenure on the NCCAOM Board Finkelstein served as the Commission's Chair from 1996 to 1997. Since that time, Dr. Finkelstein has continued his service to the NCCAOM as the Chair of the Eligibility Committee and a member of the 25th Anniversary Taskforce. Dr. Finkelstein currently serves on the Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel on International Eligibility, which was formed last year for the purpose of reviewing the eligibility requirements of international applicants for NCCAOM certification.

NCCAOM staff interviewed Dr. Finkelstein and the result was the following questions and answers.

**NCCAOM:** Dr. Finkelstein, NCCAOM recognizes that you continue to provide service and leadership within the acupuncture and Oriental medicine profession. Please describe these activities for our readers.

**DR. FINKELSTEIN:** I have served as chairperson of the National Qigong Association, the Pain Society of Oregon and the Oregon Board of Medical

Since 1982, NCCAOM has benefited from the leadership and vision of its Board of Commissioners who are responsible for stewarding the organization into the strong entity that it is today. The NCCAOM is indebted to the many volunteers who have dedicated countless hours by serving on the Board over the past three decades. As a way to show our gratitude, the NCCAOM will be featuring one of its former Commissioners in each issue of *the Diplomat* newsletter as many have moved on to other leadership roles within the acupuncture and Oriental medicine profession while others have made achievements in other ventures.

Examiners Acupuncture Committee.

**NCCAOM:** You took a leadership role as the first non-MD Chairperson of the Oregon Board of Medical Examiners Acupuncture Committee. What were some of the significant issues that your state encountered?

**DR. FINKELSTEIN:** A number of these issues have related to scope of practice. One of the most recent is “Dry Needling”. Through the efforts of the Oregon Association of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine, the Oregon Court of Appeals granted an injunction (stay of the OBCE administrative rule) to stop any certification of chiropractors to do acupuncture (dry needling) in Oregon until the case is heard in the Court of Appeals. Another recent issue has been whether to add ordering laboratory tests to the acupuncture scope of practice. At the current time, this has not been added, although debate continues.

**NCCAOM:** Besides volunteering for the NCCAOM, you maintain a busy practice, stay involved with state association activities, authored books, and teach. What keeps you inspired these days?

**DR. FINKELSTEIN:** My passion for the past 30 years has been structural medicine – what is commonly referred to as orthopedic or sports medicine and includes treatment of internal organs. I’ve spent hundreds of hours acquiring CEU’s studying Asian bodywork, osteopathy, anatomy, trigger and motor points with some of the most noted teachers in those fields. I’ve integrated these practices with acupuncture and microcurrent therapy to develop a new treatment method called “Microcurrent Positional Tuina” (MPT) which has had astounding effectiveness in treating my

patients.

**NCCAOM:** Tell us more about Microcurrent Positional Tuina (MPT) and the Postural Qigong and how this has benefited your patients.

**DR. FINKELSTEIN:** MPT offers quick, effective relief for acute and chronic neck, back, shoulder, knee and joint pain, as well as headaches, sinus, respiratory, digestive and gynecological conditions and much more. Patients who are unable to experience relief from other treatment options frequently find relief with MPT.

MPT does not utilize acupuncture needles, only microcurrent electricity and hands-on treatment, yet it achieves dramatic improvements in pain relief and range of motion almost immediately. MPT combines treatment at specialized locations of acupuncture/trigger points, using a hand held microcurrent electrical device to relax tight muscle knots, with acupressure/tuina to gently stretch tight muscles. Tension melts away in seconds. The “positional” portion of MPT involves positioning the body in specific ways to stretch and maximize access to treatment areas.

Patient education includes correcting posture and advice on beneficial ergonomic adjustments. Postural qigong stretches are recommended for ongoing improvement.

Over the years, so many of my patients benefited immensely from MPT that I wanted to help more people than I could treat in my own practice. This led to the development of MPT Training Seminars. These educational programs are available both as live seminars and an online training program. For more information, see <http://mptclasses.com>.

Free demonstration videos of MPT, MPT classes and Postural Qigong are viewable [here](#).

**NCCAOM:** What advice can you provide acupuncture and Oriental medicine practitioners who are just starting out in their practice?

**DR. FINKELSTEIN:**

- 1) Stay focused on your passion.
- 2) Learn how to run a business.
- 3) Insure that you can quickly and successfully treat pain conditions. This has always been the disease category that most people come to acupuncture for. It is also something where acupuncture frequently produces quick and noticeable improvement.

**NCCAOM:** You have made great contributions to the NCCAOM as well as to the acupuncture and Oriental medicine profession. What is the next chapter for you?

**DR. FINKELSTEIN:** I see my current role as one of an elder. In the tradition of my first acupuncture teacher, Dr. James Tin Yao So (the founder of the N.E. School of Acupuncture), I am teaching and sharing all of what I have learned over the past 35 years.

Malvin Finkelstein practices at the [Eugene Center for Acupuncture](#) and he currently utilizes the Microcurrent Positional Tuina (MPT) method to treat his patients. He lectures and provides training both as live seminars and an online training program. ■