



20th Anniversary
1979 - 1999

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March 10, 1998

Members of the RESNA RE-PSG:

Enclosed please find documents which describe the **Certification Program for Rehabilitation Engineers and Rehabilitation Engineering Technologists**, as drafted by the RESNA Board of Directors Task Force on RE / RET Certification.

The documents included in this packet are:

- this cover letter
- Certification Program for RE / RET (including path diagram and timelines)
- Rationale
- RE-PSG Survey of Member Opinion
 - Return envelope for Survey

Please read through the documents thoroughly. They represent a definitive effort by the Task Force to integrate material gathered over a 10-year period into a single workable plan. Task Force members devoted several hours each week over the past 4 months to achieve this. They deserve much credit for taking on this formidable task.

Some highlights of the Program:

- The Program addresses the fact that professionals perform work in the area with a variety of educational and work backgrounds. As such, two Certification designations are included: **Certified Rehabilitation Engineer (CRE)** and **Certified Rehabilitation Engineering Technologist (CRET)**.
- The Task Force went through all material related to the Professional Engineer (PE) issue, and gathered much new material, to accurately determine the appropriateness of the Certification Program.
- The Program includes a description of a PE Mentoring Program, to assist individuals who wish to seek out supervision as they strive for their PE, or for their regular duties.

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Moving forward on a Certification Program is a crucial step in our field, cutting to the heart of our profession. The Program addresses the issues of who can all themselves a CRE or CRET, how an existing professional can achieve this designation, and how students in the field will prepare for their careers.

For these reasons, I feel that it is essential that there be an opportunity for comprehensive discussion. Discussions on new material and certification directions have taken place at every RESNA Conference RE-PSG meeting, but at this time we need to do better. I would like to designate the period of March 18 to April 19, 1999 as a 30-day call for comment / discussion regarding the Program on the RE-PSG listserv (see instructions at the end of this letter on how to self-subscribe if not already on the listserv). RE-PSG members who do not have e-mail access should communicate their comments directly to me.

Also included in the packet is a 1-page RE-PSG Survey of Member Opinion. In order to recommend that the Program be sent to the Professional Standards Board (PSB) for implementation, RESNA Board members will want to know if the PSG supports the Program. The Survey will give me the means to answer that question. **The survey is due back in the RESNA office by Tuesday, April 27, 1999, at 4:30 p.m.**, and must have the RE-PSG member's name clearly indicated on the envelope.

As RE-PSG Chair, I'm trying to do everything possible to make this process fair and inclusive. I look forward to a constructive discussion on the listserv.

Sincerely,


Glenn Hedman

Chair

RE-PSG

and when time allows

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Instructions for self-subscribing to the RE-PSG listserv

Send an e-mail to LISTSERV@LIST.UVM.EDU with the following comprising the text of the message:

SUBSCRIBE RE-PSG Yourfirstname Yourlastname

Messages you wish to post would then be sent to:

RE-PSG@LIST.UVM.EDU