

AACAP Achieves CME Milestone

■ Elizabeth Hughes, Assistant Director of Education and Recertification

AACAP underwent a rigorous reaccreditation process in 2006 with the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), to continue AACAP's ability to be a provider of continuing medical education activities.

Bennett L. Leventhal, M.D., deputy chair of the Program Committee and **Rachel Fleissner, M.D.**, co-chair of the Continuing Medical Education Committee, along with Heidi Fordi, deputy executive director and senior director of Meetings, Continuing Medical Education, and Development, and Elizabeth Hughes, assistant director of Education and Recertification, completed a comprehensive written, 400-page, self-study report in May 2006, covering the past four years of CME programs. In June 2006, the ACCME conducted a televideo interview for the purposes of an in-depth discussion of the activities submitted for review. Participating in the interview were Dr. Leventhal, Dr. Fleissner, Virginia Anthony, Heidi Fordi and Elizabeth Hughes.

The ACCME announced its decision in December 2006, awarding AACAP another four year accreditation term. We had the opportunity to submit a progress report in November 2007 to change the status to Accreditation with Commendation, which would extend our accreditation period to a six year term.

In March 2008 we learned the results of the progress report from the ACCME. **AACAP has achieved an Accreditation with Commendation** decision. Only 6-8 percent of medical associations offering CME credit attain this status.

We received exemplary compliance in the following Essential Areas and Elements:

- Planning Process
- Needs Assessment
- Evaluation of Overall CME Program
- Business and Management Policies and Procedures of CME Program
- Policies for Disclosure and Standards for Commercial Support

This decision confirms the strength of AACAP's continuing medical education program. It is through the work of our outstanding Program Committee and Continuing Medical Education Committee that we were able to achieve this status.



AACAP's exemplary findings will be included in the Alliance for Continuing Medical Education *Best Practices* publication that is distributed to all ACCME providers.

Special recognition goes to Dr. Leventhal who has spent countless hours dedicated to developing and enforcing policies and procedures that support our programs. ■



Rachel Fleissner, M.D., Heidi B. Fordi, Virginia Q. Anthony, Bennett L. Leventhal, M.D., Elizabeth Hughes in Washington, D.C., after their televideo interview.