

ACGC MESSENGER



A Newsletter from the Accreditation Council
for Genetic Counseling

Welcome to the ACGC Messenger

Welcome to the 2025 Third Quarter ACGC Messenger newsletter. We look forward to keeping you updated with important information and announcements in this quarterly newsletter.

2025 ACGC Board Members

ACGC is excited to introduce our three newest Board members, who will continue to help guide the organization in supporting programs and students through the advancement of quality in genetic counseling education.



Tahnee Causey completed her undergraduate degree at the University of Virginia and her MS in Genetic Counseling degree at the University of South Carolina. Tahnee has worked as a clinical genetic counselor for over 25 years in the fields of prenatal and general genetics, and currently, in hereditary bleeding disorders. She has been in leadership at the Virginia Commonwealth University Genetic Counseling Program since 2012. Tahnee has been a volunteer for the ACGC Program Review Committee for several years, often serving in the role of

team lead on site visits, as well as previously serving as a member of the ACGC Communications Committee for two years.



Megan M. Hinton is a board-certified genetic counselor with over 25 years of experience. She earned her MS in Genetic Counseling from Northwestern University in 2000, where she currently holds a faculty position at the Feinberg School of Medicine. Since 2001, she has specialized in prenatal genetics at Northwestern Medicine, co-founding the "This Isn't What I Was Expecting" Prenatal Decisions Support Group and engaging in various administrative roles.

Megan is a member of the National Society of Genetic Counselors and the Illinois Society of Genetic Professionals, where she served as President. Additionally, she contributes to the Accreditation Council for Genetic Counseling as a team lead on site visits and has held various committee roles.

Laura Redondo, MSc, CCGC, is a Clinical Genetic Counsellor at the Bhalwani Familial Cancer Clinic at Princess Margaret Cancer Centre in Toronto, Ontario. She holds a Master of Science in Genetic and Genomic Counselling from Cardiff University and is a Canadian Certified Genetic Counsellor. Laura currently serves as Chair of the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice (DEIJ)



Committee for the Canadian Association of Genetic Counsellors (CAGC), where she leads national initiatives to promote equitable access,

representation, and inclusive practices in the field. Her professional contributions span clinical service, education, advocacy, and research, with a focus on improving access to genetics services, fostering equity in care, and integrating patient-reported outcome measures to enhance the quality and

impact of genetic counselling.

She is also dedicated to the education and mentorship of the next generation of healthcare professionals through her supervision of genetic counselling students, medical residents, and global cancer fellows at the University of Toronto. In addition, Laura contributes to the profession through academic scholarship, conference presentations, and peer review activities.

ACGC Policy Additions to the Accreditation Manual

Three new policies have been added to the **Accreditation Manual**:

- Site Visit Format Policy
- Remediation Plan Evaluation Policy
- Inactive Status Policy

The Site Visit Format Policy will go into effect next year for programs submitting their Self-Studies in 2026. All Self-Study submissions and a majority of the details of the Reaccreditation process will remain the same.

The Remediation Plan Evaluation Policy will be effective immediately and will apply to programs that have submitted remediation plans for three (or more) consecutive years. The intention of this policy is to give ACGC a mechanism by which to monitor and review programs' progress toward compliance with the standards relating to first-time board pass rate.

The Inactive Status Policy is an elective status applied for by programs who intend to remain compliant with accreditation requirements while not enrolling new students for a minimum of two consecutive years. The intention of the Inactive Status is that the program will return to Active status prior to the conclusion of the current accreditation cycle.

Please take some time to review the full text of these policies in the updated **Accreditation Manual** on the ACGC website.

Armature Account Clean-Up

Time for a bit of digital cleaning! Please take a few moments to review your personal **Armature accounts** and ensure all information noted on the "Profile" tab is up to date and, if not, make any necessary changes.

For those of you that hold an "Organization Representative" account, please review all the information listed on the "Profile" and "Contacts" tabs of the program's Armature account to ensure everything is still accurate for current program operations. If not, please make the updates yourself or [contact the ACGC Executive Office](#) for assistance.

Volunteer with ACGC

ACGC is looking for volunteers for the following committees:

Nominating - 4 volunteers needed

- The Nominating Committee reviews and proposes a slate of candidates for anonymous election to the Board of Directors.



Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice - 3 volunteers needed

- This committee informs organizational culture by providing guidance on DEIJ focus and language across all ACGC activities, policies, and communications.

Communications - 2 volunteers needed

- This committee is responsible for overseeing the ACGC brand, ensuring information is being shared with the community through all available platforms, and contributing to industry publications on behalf of the Council.

Program Review Committee (PRC) - all who are interested in taking part in the Program Review Committee are welcome to apply! Qualifications of all applicants will be reviewed but if you receive these newsletters, you likely meet the requirements to take part in this committee.

If any of these committees seem like the right fit for you, please apply [here!](#)

Program Development

2025 Application Status

Ongoing New Program Applications

The University of Chicago

2025 Programs Undergoing Reaccreditation

Arizona State University

Keck Graduate Institute

University of Toronto

University of Rochester

ACGC Office Hours



September 30th - 12-1 pm EST

Come prepared with any questions you may have, or feel free to send them to us in advance to be answered live! This is a chance to collaborate with other program leaders and ACGC Board members on questions, clarifications, and generally engage with your accreditation community. Register [here](#) if you have not yet done so!

Announcements

Prospective Genetic Counselor Student Fair - *Virtual*: September 25, 2025

2025 Site Visits: **October 2025 through January 2026**

Canadian Association of Genetic Counselors 2025 Annual Education Conference – Banff, Alberta: October 5-8, 2025

National Society of Genetic Counselors 44th Annual Conference – Seattle, WA: November 7-10, 2025

American College of Medical Genetic and Genomics Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting – Baltimore, MD: March 10-14, 2026

Accreditation Fees Due: **June 30, 2026**

Report of Current Status Application Due: **June 30, 2026**

Self-Study Application Due: **August 1, 2026**

National Society of Genetic Counselors 45th Annual Conference – Baltimore, MD: November 10-14, 2026

Resource Reminders

Curious about the procedure that happens after you submit any of the review or change forms required by ACGC? Better yet, need some help explaining it to your team or administrators? ACGC has created **flow charts**, with accompanying detailed explanation sheets, to make these processes more transparent.

We encourage you to forward and share this newsletter on your social media platforms or with colleagues and associates.

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