



National Certification Board forSM
Therapeutic Massage & Bodywork

NEWS RELEASE

For information, contact:

Jeff Kursman
(937) 278-0681
jeff@ponweb.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NCBTMB SELECTS LAURA CULVER EDGAR, EdD, MBA, CAE, AS CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

*Culver Edgar Brings 17 Years of Experience in
Nonprofit Leadership and Healthcare*

OAKBROOK TERRACE, Illinois (January 21, 2008) – The National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage & Bodywork (NCBTMB) is pleased to announce the selection of Laura Culver Edgar as its new Chief Operating Officer.

Culver Edgar is a Certified Association Executive with a doctorate in education and organizational development from Argosy University Chicago. Ten of her seventeen years of professional experience are in nonprofit association management. Most recently, Culver Edgar served as Deputy Director of the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM), the certification body for more than 13,000 acupuncture and Oriental medicine practitioners.

“Already working with a certification association in a related field, I was enticed by the opportunity offered by NCBTMB,” stated Culver Edgar. “I was attracted by the idea of staying within the alternative health community and applying my experience and knowledge to enhance NCBTMB’s relationships with stakeholders. I look forward to working with Chris, Donna, the Board and the staff to make NCBTMB the most responsive, efficient and effective organization it can be.”

“Ms. Culver Edgar has significant experience in operational management and governance,” stated Donna Feeley, Board Chair of NCBTMB. “Her skills in certification examination administration and her passion for the CAM community will make her a tremendous asset to NCBTMB as we implement the long-term strategic vision for our organization.”

While at NCCAOM, Culver Edgar piloted a culture change, completely restructuring the organization to be more customer aware, vision oriented and mission focused. In her leadership capacity, she managed a \$3.5M budget and a staff of seventeen, created Board and volunteer management policies and developed a volunteer structure. She was also accountable for all aspects of the certification program including policy development, eligibility criteria,

recertification, examination development and administration and accreditation, as well as the maintenance of certification program accreditation.

“Ms. Culver Edgar is a consensus builder with excellent communications, motivation and leadership abilities,” stated Chris Laxton, NCBTMB CEO. “She has earned a reputation for expertise in bringing disparate parties together to achieve common goals and objectives. She is a very strong and welcome addition to the NCBTMB executive team, and I look forward to working with her in our ongoing efforts to enhance customer service to our more than 88,000 certificants and new applicants, as well as state boards and massage schools.”

ABOUT NCBTMB

The National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage & Bodywork (NCBTMB) was established in 1992 as an independent, private, nonprofit organization fostering the highest standards of ethical and professional practice in the delivery of therapeutic massage and bodywork through a recognized credentialing program. NCBTMB examinations are currently utilized or recognized in statute or rule by 32 states plus the District of Columbia. There are currently more than 88,000 professionals with NCBTMB certification. NCBTMB has been accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) since 1993.

###