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Collaboration,  
Fellowship, Networking.”*

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## **United States Senate Special Committee on Aging Holds Hearing on CME Funding**

On July 29, 2009, the Senate Special Committee on Aging held a hearing entitled: **“Medical Research and Education: Higher Learning or Higher Earning?”** The hearing was the fourth in a series of hearings the committee has held on the financial relationships between drug and device industries and America’s physicians. The committee, led by Senator Herb Kohl (D-WI), Chairman, Senator Mel Martinez (R-FL), Ranking Member, and also including newly seated Senator Al Franken, (D-MN), invited the following witnesses for testimony:

Lewis Morris, Chief Counsel to the Inspector General, US Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, DC

Steven Nissen, MD, Chairman, Department of Cardiovascular Medicine, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH

Eric Campbell, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Director of Research, Institute for Health Policy, Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA

Jack Rusley, Chairman, Culture of Medicine Action Committee, American Medical Student Association; Student, Brown University, Alpert School of Medicine, Providence, RI

Thomas Stossel, MD, Translation Medicine Division and Senior Physician, Hematology Division, Brigham & Women’s Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA

James Scully, MD, Medical Director and CEO, American Psychiatric Association, Arlington, VA

Murray Kopelow, MD, MS, FRCPC, Chief Executive, Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education, Chicago, IL

Each of these witnesses provided written testimony in advance of the hearing. You may link to their statements by pressing “CTRL” while clicking your mouse over each name.

The entire hearing may also be viewed by accessing the following link:  
[http://www.aging.senate.gov/hearing\\_detail.cfm?id=316410&](http://www.aging.senate.gov/hearing_detail.cfm?id=316410&)

The ACCME’s comments on the hearing may be found at:  
[http://www.accme.org/index.cfm/fa/news.detail/News/.cfm/news\\_id/1572ba93-d8b0-4907-9315-096c6c699c42.cfm](http://www.accme.org/index.cfm/fa/news.detail/News/.cfm/news_id/1572ba93-d8b0-4907-9315-096c6c699c42.cfm)

The hearings were not widely reported on, receiving little to no coverage from the national media. Bloggers who are intimately connected to the CME world took some notice including Tom Sullivan of Policy and Medicine: <http://www.policymed.com/2009/07/senate-aging-committee-hearing-on-education-and-research.html>

And Daniel Carlat of the Carlat Psychiatry Blog: [carlatpsychiatry.blogspot.com/.../senate-cme-hearing-impressions-more.html](http://carlatpsychiatry.blogspot.com/.../senate-cme-hearing-impressions-more.html)

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### **Update on the Research and Development Resource Base**

At last month's Society for Academic CME meeting, an update was provided on the Research and Development Resource Base (RDRB) that is housed at the University of Toronto. The RDRB is a bibliographic database of literature that enables searches of topics related to CE/CME, including the delivery and evaluation of CE in the health professions, health care outcomes, physician behavior change, and other pertinent topics to CME professionals. This is a great link to help with finding professional practice gap data to help meet ACCME Criterion 2! CME providers are encouraged to widely communicate the availability of the RDRB within our community. The web site is <http://www.rdrb.utoronto.ca/>.

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### **Call for CME Case Studies**

Have you encountered a situation in your practice of CME that was a learning experience that you are willing to share? The IACME is asking members to help contribute to the shared expertise of our group by publishing cases from real life experience. Please write them up in a brief paragraph and send to Nikita Berry at [nberry@rsna.org](mailto:nberry@rsna.org). Please let us know if you would like to be acknowledged or remain anonymous.

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## **Upcoming CME Related Events**

### **IACME and ISMS Collaborative Conference Friday, October 2, 2009**

We hope you'll join the IACME and the Illinois State Medical Society for the joint educational activity "Collaboration: Building our Community of Learners and Educators" on Friday, October 2, 2009. This interactive conference will be held at Stonegate Conference and Banquet Center in Hoffman Estates, IL from 8:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Something-for-everyone is on the agenda – from best practices to gap analyses to communication technologies and PI CME! Sessions will be interactive and are planned to involve CME professionals from all provider types, and at all levels of experience.

Visit <http://www.iacmeonline.org/node/113> for a full agenda, registration form/link, and additional information. We hope to see you there!

**NIQIE 2009: Building the Bridge between CME & Quality Improvement  
September 9-11, 2009**

The second annual conference of the National Institute for Quality Improvement and Education (NIQIE) will be held at the Intercontinental O'Hare Hotel. The goal of the conference is to further the transformation from continuing medical education to continuous performance improvement in healthcare. This interactive conference will allow participants to hear from experts as well as those implementing programs in the field and provide input to advance the integration of quality improvement and CME.

For a schedule of events, list of conference objectives and who should attend, visit [www.niqie.org](http://www.niqie.org).

**20<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the National Task Force on CME  
Provider/Industry Collaboration  
October 14-16, 2009**

Plan now to attend "Learning from the Past; Planning for the Future," scheduled for Oct. 14-16 in Baltimore. This conference will offer interactive plenary sessions that will highlight collaboration among CME providers and regulated industry, changes taking place as a result of the IOM COI Report, and health care reform's potential impact on the CME enterprise. Breakout sessions will explore the impact of public statements about commercial support of CME, interprofessional collaborations in CME, and use of technology aids and systems of collaboration available to CME providers.

Featured speakers include keynote lecturer George Mejicano, MD, MS, *Associate Dean for Continuing Professional Development at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health*, and Dave Davis, MD, Sr. Director, Continuing Education and Performance Improvement at the Association of American Medical Colleges, presenting the Shickman lecture.

Visit [www.ama-assn.org/go/cmetaskforce](http://www.ama-assn.org/go/cmetaskforce) to register or view the full conference agenda, or e-mail [cmetaskforce@ama-assn.org](mailto:cmetaskforce@ama-assn.org) for more information.