The primary charge of the Professional Development Committee (PDC) is to provide vision, leadership, and direction to ASFPM members regarding professional and related issues affecting the floodplain management profession. The PDC strives to maintain a high standard of integrity, ethical behavior and practices, professional conduct, and skill for all Certified Floodplain Managers (CFMs). PDC also strives to expand and promote the professional status and legal responsibility of the CFM and review and monitor professional education opportunities for CFMs.

The PDC endeavors to maintain the accuracy and reliability of the Certified Floodplain Manager Exam(s) with an annual review and report of the exam questions and results and direct support to the Certified Board of Regents and the ASFPM Executive Office. In addition to attending meetings of the Certification Board of Regents and Committee Chair and POD conference calls, the information below provides a current update of the accomplishments and activities of the PDC.

The 2011 Major Work Items of the Professional Development Committee are:
1. Survey of ASFPM membership regarding professional development needs
2. Investigate mandatory ethics training for CFMs.
3. CFM liability issues and availability of E & O insurance.
4. Research options for state mandated CFM requirements.
5. Attend Committee Chair Retreat, POD conference calls, and hold annual meeting.

1. Survey of ASFPM Membership Regarding Professional Development Needs
A ten question survey was developed and posted online to gather input from the membership on a variety of issues regarding professional development. Questions covered a variety of areas including: ethics training, liability, employment and state mandated CFM requirements for local FPAs. The survey was completed in March and over 1800 CFMs completed the survey.

The data gathered will be used to complete several work plan items discussed below. The survey results will also be summarized in a separate report.

2. Investigate Mandatory Ethics Training for CFMs
A review of other professional organizations to determine mandatory ethics training requirements was conducted in 2010. The review involved 28 certifications. Most have some type of “Code of Ethics” but few have mandatory ethics training requirements. However, mandatory ethics training is required by individual state licensing boards for various professions. The CFM survey indicated that about 55% of respondents believe mandatory ethics training will benefit the CFP program. A pilot ethics training workshop was held in OKC and will be held at Louisville conference. Ethics training report will be issued to CBOR.

3. CFM Liability Issues and Need/Availability of E & O Insurance
Research has been conducted regarding CFM liability issues. The research information as well as the data from the CFM survey will be utilized in preparation of a final report. Report will include the availability and approximate cost of an E&O policy for a FPM.

4. Research Options for Mandated State CFM Requirements
Information gathered from Oklahoma, Arkansas and New Mexico concerning their state CFM and FPA education requirements. CFM survey indicated a high percentage of respondents believe states should require that local FPAs obtain the CFM designation. Report will be prepared to summarize research and survey results and provide guidance to state chapters.
5. **Attend Committee Chair Retreat, POD conference calls, and hold annual meeting**

Bill Tingle attended committee chair retreat in August. Participated in two POD conference calls and the PDC held one conference call. Committee meeting was held in OKC with 23 attendees.

6. **CFM EXAM Review**

ASFPM transitioned to the updated CFM exam incorporating changes recommended by the Reliability and Validity report prepared by Ohio State University. This completed Phase 1 of the R&V recommendations. Phase 2 is now under way and includes revising the exam to new category percentages. The same 7 exam categories will remain but the number of questions in each category will be adjusted. This is a significant change in the exam and will take most of 2011 to accomplish. The remainder of R&V tasks will include program administrative changes.