

**PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR EXAMINERS COMMITTEE
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES
MARCH 5, 2009**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The scheduled meeting of the Committee was called to Order at 9:41 a.m. by Committee Chair, J. Barry Mascari, at the State Office Building, located at 124 Halsey Street, 6th floor, Somerset Conference Room, Newark, New Jersey

II. ROLL CALL

Present:

Committee Chairman, J. Barry Mascari
Committee Member, Abbey Bradway
Committee Member, William Green
Committee Member, Barbara Maurer

Also Present: Deputy Attorney General, Susan Berger
Administrative Staff: Elaine DeMars
Celeste Paige
Agnes Almeida

In accordance with Chapter 231 of P.L. 1975, more commonly referred to as the Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was provided by mail to the Office of the Secretary of State of New Jersey, The Newark Star Ledger, The Trenton Times, The Bergen Record and the Courier Post.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion made by Abbey Bradway, seconded by William Green, the minutes of the February 5, 2009 public session meeting were approved as corrected.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following individuals were in attendance:

Chris Hires - FDU graduate and LPC applicant, asked for information on communicating with the Committee. He was directed to the Committee's web page and the Division's general e-mail address: AskConsumerAffairs@dca.lps.state.nj.us

Vanessa Matos, LAC Program Coordinator, Partnership for Children of Essex requested information on the status of the application review. Luz Mosquera Villagram - Care Manager Supervisor, Partnership for Children of Essex, to request direction for meeting the standards for licensure. Requested information on the approval criteria. Sonal Patel, M.A., Psychotherapist, East Orange General Hospital. Essex requested information on the status of the application review. Dagmara Klubak, M.S. Case Manager, Care Plus, NJ attended to observe the meeting.

V. LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY

A. Assembly Bill 3765

The language of this proposal establishes an 18-month moratorium on the promulgation of new administrative rules and issuance of new policy circular letters by State agencies. The purpose is to save individuals and businesses money during difficult economic times by reducing the burden of complying

with additional State agency regulations and policies. On a motion made by Barbara Maurer, seconded by Abbey Bradway, the Committee voted unanimously to oppose the proposed legislation. The proposed legislation, A3765, would limit the regulatory flexibility of Boards and Committees in their mandate to enact public protection regulations in a timely manner. Additionally, if adopted, this bill would delay proposed regulations that were developed by the Professional Counselor Examiners Committee to address problems identified through licensing violations. Sub committees and staff worked on the proposed regulations for more than two years and will have wasted valuable time. Prohibiting the enactment of regulations would prevent the expedited review of applications and provide greater burden on staff and applicants. The budget cuts and hiring freezes over the past 30 months have produced significant staffing shortages for processing applications. The mandate to license qualified mental health care professionals is clearly threatened. This bill may actually increase expenditures through increased staff time and exacerbate the delay in licensing of qualified individuals who may lose their jobs.

B. Regulation Sunset

Proposed revisions to the current regulations at N.J.A.C. 13:34 are in the process of review by the Division of Law.

VI. GRADUATE COUNSELOR EDUCATION PROGRAMS

A. College of Saint Elizabeth - Valerie D. Scott, Ed.D.

Dr. Scott appeared to discuss the College of Saint Elizabeth's Masters in Counseling Psychology program. She informed the Committee that the course work deficiencies identified by the Committee in the review of an individual application provided the College with an opportunity to revise and supplement the program with 9 additional credits (Helping Relationship in Counseling, Social and Cultural Foundations and The Counseling Profession (Ethical and Legal Standards in Counseling (ACA)). Dr. Scott reported that the program is working toward CACREP alignment. She acknowledged that the program's use and numerous references to "psychology" have created a blurred professional identity. Dr. Scott advised the Committee that the program will offer the additional 9 credits to the program's alumni without any additional cost to the graduates. In addition to supplementing the course work, the program is seeking to hire a counselor educator (LPC). Dr. Scott will encourage students to apply for the licensed associate counselor immediately following completion of the required 60 credits and passing the National Counselor Examination. Students will also be advised to have the post-graduate supervisor submit the Plan for Supervision for Committee review and approval.

B. Fairleigh Dickinson University - Yolanda Hawkins-Rodgers. Ph.D., LPC Chair, Department of Psychology and Counseling

Committee Chair Mascari reported that a sub-Committee met with FDU representatives on March 4, 2009 to discuss Dr. Rodgers' response to the Committee's December 17, 2008. Also attending were: Zulima Farber, Esq., and Danielle Carmona, Esq. serving as FDU Counsel; Dr. Geoffrey Weinman, Dean of Becton College of Arts and Sciences; Ketri Saudi-Maxwell, FDU Master's of Arts in Counseling Program Director. The FDU representatives discussed the current program (first diplomas to be granted May 2009) and changes that have been made to comply with the educational requirements for licensure (N.J.A.C. 13:34-11) and CACREP accreditation. The representatives asked for direction in how to assist program graduates and ensure the acceptance of the program's course work for licensure. The University emphasized that although the program is offered through the Department of Psychology and Counseling, the program is not intended for clinical psychology. A distinction was made between the programs offered by the FDU Madison campus versus the Teaneck campus. On a motion by Abbey Bradway, seconded by William Green, the Committee agreed to review, when received: 1. A list of all degree programs/transcript titles conferred between 2004 and March 2009 with a corresponding sample transcript and course distribution matrix to demonstrate satisfaction of the course work requirements at N.J.A.C. 13:34-11. 2. A list of all graduates of the respective programs. 3. FDU's plan to provide and advise program alumni with additional

9 credits. 4. A University decision to revise transcript titles to reflect the program's counselor education content. The Committee will review the course distribution matrix for the current Master's of Arts in Counseling Program submitted by FDU.

C. Rowan University - Janet Cahill, Ph.D.

Dr. Janet Cahill is scheduled to appear for the May 7, 2009 meeting to discuss the University's counseling program.

D. The College of New Jersey

1. Charleen Alderfer, Ed.D., LMFT, Coordinator, Ed.S. Program in Marriage and Family Therapy. The Committee reviewed and accepted as informational Dr. Alderfer's February 12, 2009 letter regarding the CACREP accreditation of the Community Counseling Program and School Counseling Program through 2013 as informational.

2. Mark S. Woodford, Ph.D., LPC, Chair, Department of Counselor Education The Committee reviewed and accepted as informational Dr. Woodford's February 12, 2009 letter regarding the CACREP accreditation of the Community Counseling Program and School Counseling Program through 2013 as informational.

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

The Committee was informed of the announcement of the Governor regarding the mandatory furlough days for all State employees. Details of the plan and the resultant impact on the functioning of the Committee office have not been received.

IX. CORRESPONDENCE

X. OLD BUSINESS

A. CACREP Accreditation Effective Dates:

Montclair State University and Monmouth University

Robert Urofsky, Ph.D., CACREP Director of Accreditation (E-mail dated February 6, 2009) Information was provided to confirm that Montclair State University (Community Counseling, School Counseling and Student Affairs programs) and Monmouth University (Mental Health Counseling program) received two-year accreditation for the period January 8, 2009 through March 31, 2009. Dr. Urofsky provided information on the terms of the two year accreditation.

He detailed the CACREP policy, effective January 2008, that grants retroactive recognition to program graduates within the year prior to receiving accreditation: "Students in a program seeking accreditation shall be considered graduates of a CACREP program if they receive their degree within one (1) academic year prior to when accreditation is conferred, and if the program can validate that the student completed the CACREP program requirements." For decision-making purposes, if CACREP confers accreditation in January 2009, then a program's spring 2008, summer 2008 and fall 2008 graduates would be considered graduates of a CACREP accredited program. If CACREP confers accreditation in July 2009, then a program's summer 2008, fall 2008, spring 2009 graduates would be considered graduates of a CACREP accredited program. This only applies to programs receiving accreditation from January 2008 forward.

B. CACREP 2009 Standards

Carol Bobby, Executive Director, CACREP

Through a conference call, the Committee discussed the revisions included in the recently adopted 2009 CACREP standards. In addition to the specific changes, the Committee was informed that in addition to the

campus programs, three distance learning programs are CACREP- accredited: Walden University, Cappella University and Regent University (Doctoral program).

C. Proposed Supervised Clinical Evaluation form

The Committee reviewed a copy of a form intended to record details of the clinical supervised experience. The form will be available as a template for the type of information the Committee expects in the supervisors' records created in the course of supervision.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Upon review of the article entitled; "The State of Substance Abuse Treatment Training in Counseling and Counseling Psychology Programs: What is and is Not Happening " published in Journal of Teaching in the Addictions the Committee noted that not all counselor education/mental health programs include addiction counseling training. The 2009 CACREP standards, however, will require addiction counseling course work/training.

XII. NBCC MATTERS

The January 17, 2009 statistical report was accepted as informational.

XIII. AASCB MATTERS

XIV. FILED ORDERS

Godfried Baning, LPC - February 19, 2009 filed Consent Order for aiding and abetting the unlicensed practice of professional counseling

XV. CONSENT ORDER TRACKING

Toby Grossman, LPC

On a motion made by Abbey Bradway, seconded by William Green, the Committee moved to confirm the decision to retain the matter and conduct a hearing on June 3, 4 and 5, 2009.

XVI. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for April 2, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. at 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey.

April 2, 2009 July 9, 2009 October 1, 2009
May 7, 2009 August 6, 2009 November 5, 2009
June 4, 2009 September 3, 2009 December 3, 2009

XVII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion made by Abbey Bradway seconded by William Green, the Committee moved into Executive Session at 2:16 to discuss consumer complaints and pending disciplinary matters.

XVIII. CREDENTIAL REVIEW

On a motion by Abbey Bradway, seconded by William Green the following applicants were approved for licensure.

Professional Counselors Associate Counselors
Assa, Roberta Arace, Linda

Billick, John Arhakos, Tara
Blanding, Jessica Baadarani, Janine
Bruner, Patricia Brutman, Ross
Cartelli, Joanne Buffalino, Taryn
Costanzo, Josephine Hernandez, Thereza
Dahlberg-Lee, Elizabeth Hinton, Dashua
Favaloro, Ann Hyson, Robyn
Finklestein, Laurence Jeffrey, Phoebe
Finn, Eric Jordan, Nadine
Gorman, Susan Karpowic, Elizabeth
Liscovich, Marta Klubek, Dagmara
McNevin, Cynthia Patel, Sonal
Reinman, Lauren Perrello, Ming
Rothenburger, Maria Quinones, Brian
Solinski, Michael Riley, Jennifer
Varkey, Bina

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by William Green and seconded by Abbey Bradway, the meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.