



STATE OF ARIZONA
BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EXAMINERS
1400 WEST WASHINGTON, SUITE 350
PHOENIX, AZ 85007
PHONE: 602.542.1882 FAX: 602.542.1830
Arizona State Website: www.az.gov
Board Website: www.bbhe.state.az.us
Board E-mail Address: azbbhe@bbhe.state.az.us

JANET NAPOLITANO
Governor

GAIL CHASE
Board Chair

DEBRA RINAUDO
Executive Director

COUNSELING CREDENTIALING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, December 9, 2003

Members Present: Susan Jernigan, Lisa Aumack, William Martin, Carolyn Brown (1:07 – 2:45 on phone / 3:55 – 6:00 in person)

Members Absent: Diane Pruetz

Staff Present: Debra Rinaudo, Doreen Romney, Mary Wilson

Public Present: Jacqueline Kahn, Richard Poppy, Sherry Laventure, Ericha Scott, Vicky Strome, Julia Ingram, Max Dine

Public by telephone: Craig Lounsbrough

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order on December 9, 2003, at 1:02 p.m. with Dr. Aumack presiding.

2. **Roll Call**

See above.

3. **Report from the Executive Director and/or staff**

A. Development of licensure rules

Ericha Scott addressed the committee regarding reciprocity and her belief that it excludes more than is apparent. Ms. Scott questioned the requirement for a number of years to have been licensed in another state and the differentiation between administrative and clinical work. Ms. Scott also stated that she feels grandfathering is not inclusive and more practitioners should be considered.

Julia Ingram, a counselor from Oregon who has relocated to Arizona and is in private practice, informed the committee that she is waiting for the committee to provide more flexibility through reciprocity.

Craig Lounsbrough addressed the committee by telephone regarding his situation and his desire to be kept informed regarding any changes in the reciprocity guidelines.

Ms. Rinaudo reviewed the latest draft of the licensure rules and members discussed changes.

B. Request for legislative changes to master's degree credit hour requirement

Richard Poppy addressed the committee and requested that educational programs be considered based on the quality of the content rather than the number of credit hours obtained. Specifically, he requested that programs with 36 semester credit hours be accepted for counseling certification if curriculum requirements have been met.

Ms. Rinaudo reported that the Board's certification statute requires a minimum of 48 semester credit hours for non-CACREP and non-CORE programs. This requirement increases to 60 semester credit hours in 2008. The change in requirements requested by Mr. Poppy would require a statutory change. Ms. Rinaudo also reported regarding the large majority of other states requiring a minimum of 48 semester credit hours for counseling certification or licensure. The lowering of standards requested by Mr. Poppy could lead to reimbursement entities refusing to recognize and accept the Board's credentialing process for counselors.

The committee indicated that it would not support any effort to seek legislative support to lower the current credit hour requirements. Ms. Rinaudo advised Mr. Poppy that he would likely want to work with other stakeholders to determine if there is substantial support for his proposal. Ms. Rinaudo indicated that she would identify such stakeholders for him so he can pursue such an effort.

C. Consideration of whether art therapy programs meet Board requirements

Jackie Kahn addressed the committee regarding art therapy educational programs.

Dr. Aumack advised Ms. Kahn that the committee's responsibility is to determine whether an applicant's educational program provided a broad background in general mental health counseling or if it was limited to art therapy. Dr. Aumack requested that Ms. Kahn provide any information relevant to that determination. The committee agreed to hold a special meeting in January to review this issue.

4. Future agenda items

None

5. Call for public comment

None

6. Establishment of future meeting date(s)

Meetings are scheduled for December 19, 2003, at 1:00 p.m. and January 23, 2004, at 9:00 a.m. in room B-2. A special meeting will be scheduled to review the acceptability of art therapy educational programs.

7. Adjournment

Dr. Martin moved, seconded by Ms. Brown, to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Diane Pruetz
Secretary/Treasurer

Date